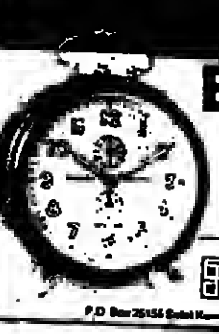


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## America is neutral in Gulf war: Reagan

# Iran raids Saudi ship despite US warning

MANAMA, April 24, (Agencies): An Iranian gunboat rocketed a Saudi Arabian-owned tanker in the Strait of Hormuz today, hours after President Reagan warned Iran to stop attacking neutral parties in the Gulf.

Reagan, in his weekly radio address yesterday, said the United States did not seek confrontation with Iran. But he said further attacks by Iran on non-belligerents would be costly to the Iranians.

### Effort

"Our role in this war is neutral. We do not seek to confront Iran. However, its leaders must understand that continued military and terrorist attacks against non-belligerents and refusal to negotiate an end to the war will be very costly to Iran and its people."

"We are very pleased with the role that the European allies are playing in a cooperative effort to counter the Iranian mining threat and to help protect freedom of navigation."

"Such cooperative efforts, supported by our Gulf Arab friends, offer the best means of deterring Iran and enhancing Gulf security," Reagan said.

"Working together," he said, "We can put new life into UN Security Council efforts to end

the increasingly bloody, inhumane Iran-Iraq war and remove the root cause of tensions in the Gulf."

Gulf-based shipping executives, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the 37,011-ton Sea Trader was approached by a swarm of six armed speedboats as it sailed northward through the Strait, gateway to the Gulf.

But they said only one took part in the 7.30 am (0330 GMT) attack.

The officials said the tanker's Indian skipper, Capt. B.R. Pagarkar, reported that his ship was only slightly damaged with no casualties among his Indian crew.

### Escaped

The Sea Trader made for the southern port of Dabai with an unexploded rocket hanging from its punctured side. But when the tanker docked, the captain reported that the missile had fallen overboard.

The shipping officials quoted Pagarkar as saying he saw six speedboats heading in his direction as the tanker was entering the Gulf to lift a cargo of oil at the Saudi port of Ras Tanura.

"Five then went in one direction while one appeared to be heading for another tanker, and I thought we'd escaped an attack. But suddenly it veered toward my ship asking for the master,"

Pagarkar said. The Iranians demanded the Sea Trader's destination and were preparing to board, when "suddenly they began firing with shoulder-carried guns. They must have fired 10 to 12 rockets," the captain said.

### Clashes

"I had no fire and no injuries and so when I saw that I didn't require assistance, I just proceeded," he added.

The tanker flies a Liberian flag, but is owned by the Bakri Navigation Co. of Jeddah.

The Sea Trader was the first ship hit by the Iranians since Monday, when their gunboats attacked several vessels during a series of clashes with the US Navy.

US officials have disclosed that American warships in the Gulf will now be allowed to go to the aid of neutral vessels under attack. Previously, the US Navy was not permitted to intervene in raids on non-American vessels.

US officials said the new policy was designed to deter Iranian attacks.

Commanders had the authority to intervene if necessary, the official noted, but they stressed that would depend on whether a US warship observed an Iranian attack and was close enough to take action. One source, speaking on con-

dition of anonymity, described the toughened policy as "a random, target-of-opportunity approach designed to throw the Iranians off guard."

The Iranians usually attack merchant vessels in retaliation, on ship-for-ship basis, for Iraqi air raids on their tankers.

Some 500 ships have been hit by both sides and some 300 seamen have been killed.

The government is studying the Chinese reaction to US attacks on Iranian targets in the Gulf to see if Beijing has reversed its willingness to go along with an arms embargo against Iran, officials said.

### Remains

Iran's Revolutionary Guards yesterday retrieved remains of an American helicopter allegedly shot down by Iranian forces in a major showdown with the US Navy in the Gulf earlier this week, Tehran Radio reported.

The state-run broadcast, said naval units of the Revolutionary Guards found the remains and brought them ashore.

Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati arrived in Damascus yesterday on an official visit to Syria.

The state-run Syrian television said Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al-Sara met his guest on arrival at Damascus airport, but did not elaborate on the purpose of the visit.



Tripoli residents inspect the damage caused by the car bomb blast in the city (Reuters wirephoto).

## Blast sent tongues of fire into air

# Lebanon massacre toll reaches 60

TRIPOLI, April 24, (Agencies): The death toll from Lebanon's worst car bombing in three years rose to 60 today after six people wounded in the blast died in hospital while a man was dragged injured but alive from the rubble of a wrecked building, police said.

The explosion sent "tongues of fire" into the air, people in Tripoli said.

A coordination committee, which runs the day-to-day affairs of Lebanon's second largest city, declared two days of public mourning for the victims of yesterday's car bombing in a crowded vegetable market.

Police said the number of wounded from the blast in the low-income Tabbaneh district of the northern port city was now 120.

The city's eight hospitals were filled to capacity with casualties and morgues were "packed with corpses," police said.

Radio stations continued to broadcast urgent appeals for blood donations.

### Casualties

Civil defence rescue teams who had clawed through the rubble of wrecked buildings into the night called off their search after they dragged the 33-year-old survivor, a grocer, to safety soon after midnight, police reported.

The man, who was not named, had been buried for more than 16 hours. He was taken to Batroun hospital, 15 miles (24 kilometres) south of Tripoli, because the city's hospitals were already overflowing with casualties.

Police said no one else was listed as missing or believed to be buried in the wreckage.

Not everyone was as lucky as the grocer.

Ahmed Touni, 9, watched last night as hospital attendants drew a white sheet over the body of his mother, 29, after she died from wounds suffered in the blast.

"My mother died. I have no mom," he sobbed.

Tripoli, whose 850,000 population is predominantly Sunni Muslim, is 50 miles (80 kms) north of Beirut.

### Devastated

Police said the market was devastated when a black pickup truck, loaded with vegetables that had 150 kilograms (330 pounds) of TNT, exploded as the area was filled with shoppers.

Lebanese Interior Minister Abdullah Rassi urged citizens to come forward with any clues that might help find those who carried out a car bomb attack.

"This is a national catastrophe. Can reason understand this ugly crime against innocent citizens?" said Rassi, a Greek Orthodox Christian, calling the bombing a heinous act.

Acting Prime Minister Selim Hoss, a Sunni Muslim, said: "This is a real massacre. The blood of innocents calls on all of us to use all means to prevent the butchers from carrying out such mass crimes."

In a separate development, militiamen fired on two Frenchmen employed by a French radio station who by mistake drove towards Israel's self-declared security zone in South Lebanon, the men said today.

"When the SLA fired at us, we raised a white flag," Bernard Carbon of Paris-based radio station FUN said.

## PLO and Syria reconciled

# Arafat heads for Syria

DAMASCUS, April 24, (Reuters): PLO leader Yasser Arafat is heading for Damascus on an official visit following a PLO-Syrian rapprochement, Palestinian spokesman said today.

The spokesman of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) said that Arafat was due in Damascus at any moment today but his exact schedule was being kept secret for security reasons.

### Reconciled

Salim Al Zaanoun, deputy Speaker of the Palestine National Council (PNC), said on Friday the PLO and Syria had been reconciled after talks in Damascus between the country's Vice-President Abdel Halim Khaddam and a powerful delegation of Arafat's Fatah group.

Palestinian sources said Arafat was expected to meet Syrian President Hafez Al Assad to crown the intensive talks held by Palestinian and Syrian officials here during last week.

Most members of the PLO executive committee are now in Damascus after attending the funeral of slain Palestinian military commander Khalil Al Wazir.

In Algiers, Arafat said yesterday that the Arab uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories



Arafat would continue until there was an independent Palestinian state.

Arafat spoke after talks with Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid.

The National Press Agency APS quoted PLO chairman as saying: "The Palestinians will continue with their uprising and intensify it by all means until the Israeli forces withdraw from our territories and an independent Palestinian state with Al Quds (east Jerusalem) as its capital is established."

## Israel lifts curbs on Palestinians

TEL AVIV, April 24, (Reuters): Israel lifted restrictions today that had barred 1.5 million Palestinians from leaving the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip for a week and confined many of them to their homes, the Army said.

It said authorities lifted the curbs at 3:01 am (0001 GMT) because of the relative quiet in recent days and to enable residents to fully observe the holy month of Ramadan that began last week.

The Army lifted curfews over nearly 400,000 residents.

It imposed the restrictions on April 17 to halt violent protests sparked by the slaying in Tunis of Khalil Al Wazir, the military deputy to PLO chief Yasser Arafat.

### Death

Al Wazir was machinegunned to death at his home in an attack widely believed to have been carried out by an Israeli assassination squad.

A paramilitary border policeman opened fire and killed a Palestinian man who attacked him with an axe during a protest

in the West Bank village of Qabatiya, the Army said. The victim was not identified.

Last night, an Israeli driver, aged 50, was cut by flying glass when a stone-thrower broke the windshield of her passing car along a highway of the Negev desert.

The Army, however, maintained a curfew on the 28,000 Palestinians of the Nuseirat refugee camp in the Gaza Strip and on Anabta village and Nur Shams refugee camp, both in the West Bank.

Authorities decided to allow petrol supplies to filling stations in the West Bank for the first time in several weeks.

Military sources said journalists would regain access to the territories but the Army reserved the right to seal off specific areas to maintain security.

At least 164 Palestinians and two Israelis have died in four months of the worst bloodshed since Israel captured the West Bank and Gaza Strip from Jordan and Egypt in the 1967 Middle East war.

## French go to polls

PARIS, April 24, (Reuters): France's two-stage presidential election opened under sunny skies today, with current head of state Francois Mitterrand poised to top Prime Minister Jacques Chirac in the field of nine candidates.

## KAC to resume Asian flights

KUWAIT Airways resumes its flights to the sub-continent from Wednesday, it was announced yesterday. Flights to Karachi, Delhi, Bombay, Colombo and Dhaka will begin on April 27.

Meanwhile, flights to Bangkok and Manila will start on May 3.

KAC suspended operations to the Far East and Asia following the hijack of flight KU422 returning from Bangkok to Kuwait. Flights were cancelled to review security arrangements on this sector.

KAC's public relations director, Abdullah Al Nafisi earlier told reporters that sky marshals would be deployed to bolster security. Passengers would also be asked to identify their baggage before getting on the plane as an additional security measure.

Travel agents are now accepting bookings for all KAC flights.

## Bus fall kills 13

ISLAMABAD, April 24, (Reuters): A runaway bus killed 13 passengers and seriously injured 11 yesterday when it plunged down a mountain after trying to avoid crashing into an oncoming car, the official Pakistani APP news agency reported.

The accident happened in the Pakistan-administered part of the Himalayan state of Kashmir.

## Kuwait to take steps to halt hijacking

KUWAIT will take immediate measures to prevent the recurrence of crimes such as the hijacking of the Kuwait Airways jumbo jet early this month, Defence Minister, Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed said yesterday.

The Council of Ministers will look into the measures required to counter such incidents to ensure safety and security of the citizens, he told a Kuwaiti daily newspaper.

Sheikh Nawaf was referring to

the 16-day hijack ordeal which ended in a bumpy tone last Wednesday with the return home of the passengers and crew from Algiers.

He said the hijacking has fostered unity and proved the soundness of Kuwaiti policy.

### Strength

He said nobody expected the government to bow to blackmail and terrorism or retreat from its principles under pressure. "No concessions, small or big, had

been made at any time during the ordeal," he added.

"The fact that people understood the nature of the challenge and the determination needed to counter terrorism at any cost gave the government the strength to reject all demands put forward by the hijackers."

"The government was as concerned with the developments as the people were but was confident the ordeal would end in the interest of the Kuwaiti people."



The damage caused when the roof of a car park collapsed can be seen through the huge hole. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Afghan rebels take 2 towns

ISLAMABAD, April 24, (Reuters): Muslim guerrillas said today they had occupied two towns in southern Afghanistan near the Pakistan border after government troops abandoned them.

Rebel spokesmen in Pakistan said helicopters evacuated hundreds of government troops from Athghar, in Zabul province, yesterday and from Maruf, in Kandahar, on Friday.

The mujahideen (rebels) later took control of the towns, they said.

## Car park collapses

VANCOUVER, British Columbia, April 24, (Reuters): At least 12 people were injured when a car park above a supermarket collapsed during the store's grand opening, sending cars crashing through the roof.

Police said more than 20 cars toppled into the store from a huge hole in the first-floor car park as employees ushered shoppers to safety.

Most of those injured were senior citizens invited specially to attend the opening-day ceremonies of the grocery store

in the Vancouver suburbs of Burnaby. The store is part of a chain owned by former Expo '86 chairman Jim Pattison.

"We were being shown around the store and there was a clatter," said Seniors' Group organiser Frank Helden. "Then all of a sudden we saw a beam twist and then everybody was ordered out. The roof fell in, literally."

At first only six people were reported hurt. The injured tally rose as rescue workers used cranes to move huge blocks of fallen concrete.

**THE WORLD THIS MORNING**

**Warning**  
ABU DHABI, (UPI): Tunisian Foreign Minister Mahmoud Mestiri has warned US-Tunisian relations could suffer if Washington vetoed a Security Council resolution that would condemn Israel for the April 16 assassination of PLO military commander, Khalil Al Wazir.

### Meningitis

KHARTOUM, (Reuters): A meningitis epidemic in Sudan has killed more than 1,000 people since it erupted last month, a Khartoum newspaper said.

### New threat

BEIRUT, (AP): Shiite Muslim extremists threatened yesterday to kill two American hostages if US warships in the Gulf launch new attacks on Iranian targets.

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## INTERNATIONAL

## Sikhs kill 13 in Punjab

NEW DELHI, April 24, (AP): Suspected Sikh militants shot and killed 13 people in Punjab today, prompting a new police alert across the northern Indian state, news reports and police said.

Sunday's slayings brought the total number of people killed in violence blamed on Sikh radicals to at least 30 since Friday.

The killings also triggered tightening of security measures in New Delhi, where police were checking vehicles. Several road blocks were erected across this city with a population of six million.

"We have reports that Sikh terrorists may try to create public disorder in the capital, hence the measure," an officer at the police control centre said.

United News of India said that suspected Sikh militants shot and killed 13 people, including a Sikh woman, in six separate attacks in Punjab state today.

Among the dead were seven Sikhs and three Hindus. Identities of the remaining three were not immediately known.

## Deaths

Sikh radicals, who are campaigning for an independent homeland in their rich farming state, were blamed for 12 deaths in Punjab on Friday.

On Saturday five more people died in Sikh radical attacks.

The latest killings raised to 807 the number of deaths blamed on Sikh militants in Punjab state since the start of the year.

## Dukakis turns to train tour

PHILADELPHIA, April 24, (Reuters): Frontrunner Michael Dukakis turned to an old-fashioned campaign tactic today — the whistle-stop train tour — in his quest for the Democratic presidential nomination.

Although he holds a large lead in the polls over black leader Jesse Jackson for Pennsylvania's primary on Tuesday, the Massachusetts Governor continued to campaign virtually non-stop in this industrial state. Victory in Pennsylvania could add up to 178 nominating delegates to his total.

Dukakis scheduled a campaign train tour through small towns around the once-thriving steel city of Pittsburgh, aiming for the blue-collar votes which hold the key to victory here.

It was reminiscent of the campaign trains made famous by the late President Harry Truman when he won his upset victory over Republican Thomas Dewey 40 years ago. Only this time, Dukakis is the favourite.

Jackson, who also has campaigned hard in Pennsylvania, said he would go to Washington to bolster his campaign finances at fund-raising affairs.

## Filipino communists plan to set up national government

MANILA, April 24, (Reuters): The Philippine communist leadership said today the foundation for a nationwide rebel government was being laid and urged foreign friends to help them achieve "glorious victory."

In a statement marking its 15th anniversary, the National Democratic Front said it had set up rural governments in 63 of the country's 73 provinces and its goal was now to set up a provisional government "on a nationwide scale."

The NDF is an umbrella organisation of leftist groups calling for armed struggle against the Manila government. It is headed by the banned Communist Party and includes farmers, workers, church people and professionals.

In the latest rebel-linked violence, two soldiers, a militiaman and a civilian were killed yesterday when rebels firing from a river bank ambushed a boatload of soldiers and

militiamen in Pampanga province, 80 kms north of Manila, the military said.

The NDF statement, delivered to news offices, was signed by front chairman "Andres Macias," believed to be pseudonym.

## Assistance

The NDF thanked "friends and supporters all over the world" for their help and asked them "to keep faith with us."

"Let it be manifested in our united endeavours to defeat the common enemy," the NDF said. It did not specify the nature of the assistance received. Rebel spokesmen have said the guerrillas, estimated to number at least 24,000, might seek arms aid from abroad if the United States escalated its arms deliveries to Manila.

The military said that in 1987 the rebels received \$15 million from supporting 11 countries.

Meanwhile, documents taken from seven rebel leaders cap-

tured in Manila last month showed "communist agents" had infiltrated the Philippine Foreign Office, enabling guerrillas to travel abroad for fund-raising purposes, the Manila Bulletin newspaper reported today.

The newspaper, quoting intelligence sources, said some rebels using aliases had been able to secure different passports and that one them, a woman, returned recently bringing thousands of dollars with her.

## Killing

Suspected communist assassins disguised as joggers shot dead a policeman today in the fourth rebel killing in the Philippine capital in less than a week, police said.

They said one of the four gunmen shouted after the shooting: "We are NPA."

The military has blamed the communist New People's Army (NPA) for the murder of about 20 policemen and soldiers

around Manila this year.

Police said Corporal Rudy Abratique, an aide of Jejomar Binay, Mayor of the Makati commercial district, was relaxing outside his house when the killers, dressed in jogging shorts, shot him in the head and body.

On April 19, suspected communist killers, who operate in "Sparrow Squads," so-named for their swiftness of attack, shot dead a businessman and two Philippine Navy men in separate attacks around the capital.

## Ambush

Earlier, armed men ambushed a car carrying a provincial governor, but security guards killed three of the attackers in a gun battle, the military said today.

Zamales provincial Gov. Amor Delos and his party were driving to Delos' home yesterday when they were ambushed by five gunmen outside of Botolan town, 129 km northwest of Manila, a military report from Zamales said.

## Israel is an enemy of settlement

## Abu Jihad murder killed peace

ABU DHABI, April 24, (Reuters): Tunisia's Foreign Minister said in comments published today that the assassination of PLO military leader Abu Jihad had killed Middle East peace.

But Foreign Minister Mahmoud Al Mestiri told the Gulf daily Al Itihad some way should be found of bringing Israel to a peace settlement and this was probably in American hands.

"The only problem the peace process has is one enemy, which is Israel," he said.

"A peace settlement was killed by different Israeli positions. The last one which definitely killed it was the killing of Abu Jihad," he added.

Abu Jihad, the nom de guerre of Khalil Al Wazir, was gunned down in Tunis eight days ago in

what Israeli sources have said was a government-sanctioned commando operation.

Mestiri said he did not expect an Arab summit, planned for Algiers in June, to discuss a US regional peace plan unveiled in February by US Secretary of State George Shultz.

The plan, proposing interim Palestinian autonomy in Israeli-occupied territories and an international peace conference, has run into opposition in Israel, Syria and Jordan.

## Attacks

"Israel has rejected the plan. There is no sense in the Arabs accepting something which is already rejected," Mestiri said.

Israel had the PLO's military leader assassinated last week

because he planned new attacks on Israel and its allies, including the United States, a magazine reported yesterday.

US News and World Report, quoting Jerusalem sources, says the decision to assassinate Al Wazir, despite known risks, was based on more than his alleged involvement in a recent hijacking by the Palestine Liberation Organization that resulted in three Israeli deaths.

Quoting Israeli intelligence reports, the magazine says: "Abu Jihad was said to have struck deals with Liha's Moammar Khaddafi and various East European intelligence agencies to restore the sophisticated PLO combat capability that Israel had destroyed in the invasion of Lebanon."

## No trace of 27 hostages held by Kanaks

## French take over Ouvrea village

NOUMEA, April 24, (Reuters): French security forces on the tiny New Caledonian island of Ouvrea took over a tribal village and arrested two Kanak separatists today but found no trace of 27 kidnapped gendarmes, a pro-separatist radio station reported.

The station, which said it got its report from a source "on the spot," said women and children had been moved out of the Gosanah tribal village and the men had been placed under guard in a central location.

A police spokesman in the New Caledonian capital of Noumea declined to comment on the report.

French security forces have been combing the sun-drenched 40 km by three km island since

Kanak separatists attacked a police outpost on Friday, killing three gendarmes, injuring five and taking 27 hostages.

Yesterday, the Kanaks were reported to have issued demands for the gendarmes' release, among them the last-minute cancellation of regional elections scheduled for Sunday, but the voting went ahead as planned.

The two men arrested were taken to Ouvrea airport, which has been turned into a military zone by the security forces, the radio station said.

It named one of the arrested as Djubeli Wea, known as a hard-line separatist.

The operation on Ouvrea has been placed under an Army gen-

eral, replacing the police who normally direct security on the island.

French gendarmes came under fire in the South Pacific territory today as voting for regional elections began.

A police spokesman said one policeman had been wounded by gunfire in front of the town hall of Canala, north-east of Noumea, since the polls opened in the French-ruled islands this morning.

He said three police patrols were also shot at overnight but no one was injured.

Four Melanesians were arrested last night after explosives were found in a house in the capital. No further details were available.

## No more smoking on most US flights

WASHINGTON, April 24, (Reuters): Smoking was banned on most US airline domestic flights on Saturday under a law providing a \$1,000 fine for lighting up in the sky.

Some airlines said they would try to ease the agony of abstention by giving out free chocolate and gum to die-hard smokers.

The ban applies to all flights of two hours or less, about 80 per cent of all scheduled domestic flights.

Northwest Airlines has gone even further, banning smoking on all its flights in the United States and Canada except those to and from Hawaii.

Under the law, which was passed by Congress last year and expires in 1990, airlines must tell passengers before takeoff that smoking is prohibited and must keep "no smoking" signs lighted for the duration of flights.

The ban will be in effect even on flights that are delayed beyond two hours.

## Fine

Anyone caught smoking on affected flights can be fined up to \$1,000 for each violation. The law provides for a \$2,000 fine for anyone who disables a smoke detector in an airliner lavatory.

Opponents of the smoking ban said it would be difficult to enforce and might lead some passengers to smoke in lavatories.



US Secretary of State George Shultz visits the Kiev-Pechersk Lavra. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Shultz plays down Soviet criticism

TBILISI, Soviet Union, April 24, (Reuters): US Secretary of State George Shultz, playing down fresh Soviet criticisms, says it would be wrong to think superpower relations are on a rocky course ahead of next month's summit.

Shultz told reporters travelling with him in the Soviet Union that he was not disturbed by Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev's charge that the United States is lecturing Moscow.

"We all know it is a difficult relationship to manage," Shultz said. "The Soviets are as quick to say as we are, because it is a reality, that there are a lot of problems... just as it is true that there are problems that are resolved."

Gorbachev complained to Shultz at a Kremlin meeting on Friday that the Reagan administration was maintaining a confrontational approach on subjects such as human rights.

## Sermons

"Sermons are again being preached to us, and we are being instructed on how we should behave ourselves," he said.

US officials said they assumed Gorbachev's remarks were a reaction to a hard-hitting speech on US-Soviet relations which President Reagan gave on Thursday in Springfield, Massachusetts.

Shultz, who spoke to reporters on Saturday on his plane from the Ukrainian capital of Kiev to the Georgian capital Tbilisi, said he thought the Soviet reaction might have been overdone.

But he accepted he had made no major breakthrough in his talks in Moscow on Thursday and Friday, especially on achieving a pact to halve the superpowers' strategic nuclear arsenals.

Both the United States and the Soviet Union have pledged to try to reach such a pact by the time Gorbachev meets Reagan from May 29 to June 2 in Moscow.

Asked if both countries were now resigned to not achieving a deal by the summit, Shultz said: "We are determined not to say that because both sides want to keep up the momentum as strongly as we can."

A senior US official told reporters that Gorbachev had made a point late on Friday of sending Shultz a message through Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze saying he was happy with the way his talks with Shultz had gone that day.

Shultz denied that Reagan's speech indicated the White House was taking a harder pre-summit line than the State Department.

"There are no differences between me and the president insofar as this and other foreign policy subjects are concerned," he said.

Shultz's effort to limit the fallout from his talks with Gorbachev distracted attention from his visits outside the capital, intended to reflect a warmer US-Soviet relationship.

Shultz will leave Tbilisi today for Brussels to brief the Western Nato allies on his talks in Moscow.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Diarrhoea

DHAKA, April 24, (Reuters): At least 500 people have died in Bangladesh since March in a diarrhoea epidemic caused by contaminated water and food, doctors said today.

They said most victims were from the southern Projeepur, Patuakhali and Barguna districts and Pabna in the north.

Three thousand people had so far been infected and hospitals were receiving hundreds of patients every day.

The doctors added that shortages of staff and medicine was hampering treatment.

## Inmate recaptured

DUBLIN, Ireland, April 24, (AP): Police today recaptured the ninth inmate who escaped from an Irish prison as a nationwide strike by Ireland's 1,900 guards entered its second week.

Irish news reports said a man jailed for assault walked out of Dublin's Mountjoy prison last night dressed in an Irish Army uniform. Police declined to identify him or give details of his escape.

## Torture

SINGAPORE, April 24, (UPI): Family members of eight political dissidents, rearrested by the government after claiming they were tortured by state interrogators, have demanded the right for them and the detainees' attorneys to visit the dissidents in prison.

"We are extremely distressed and sick with worry about the well-being of our loved ones," the family members said in a letter sent yesterday to internal security department director Tjong Yik Min. "Every moment of the day we wonder whether our loved ones are being physically and/or psychologically tortured."

## Employee awarded

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, April 24, (AP): A former Boeing employee who revealed the Swedish arms manufacturer's illegal exports and a British magazine were awarded the Dagens Nyheter and Politiken Freedom prize here today.

Ingvar Bratt and the London-based Index on Censorship Share the 100,000 kronor (\$17,000) prize presented by the liberal dailies. Dagens Nyheter publishes in Stockholm, and Politiken in Copenhagen.

The awards ceremony will be held in Stockholm on June 12, Dagens Nyheter said.

## Beatifications

VATICAN CITY, April 24, (Reuters): Pope John Paul beatified four 19th century religious figures, including a German and a Spanish priest, during a mass at the Vatican today.

More than 20,000 pilgrims braved torrential rain to attend the mass, celebrated by the Pope and 24 clergy beneath a canopy on the steps in front of St Peter's Basilica.

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# Mines once again a major problem in Gulf: US officials

WASHINGTON, April 24. (Agencies: US Defence officials, now reassessing the rules of battle for American forces in the Gulf, say that mines once again have become a major problem in dealing with Iran in the region.

"We expect there will be more mines laid by Iran. That could lead to trouble again like we had last week. Some of our people could get killed," one Pentagon official told Reuters.

"You have to understand that when even a small country has modern weapons, just one mine or mine can cause you grief," said another of the officials, who asked not to be identified.

Yesterday, US officials said that while no decision has been made the Reagan Administration plans to authorise US Navy forces in the Gulf to offer protection to neutral ships not flying the American flag when they come under attack.

## Realise

The US Navy destroyed five more mines in the southern Gulf on Friday, bringing to 13 the total found by Western forces since the US frigate Samuel Roberts hit a mine in the area on April 14, injuring 10 American sailors.

The United States did not say Iran mined the latest five mines in the area, but defence officials said after they were detonated that they bore numbers in sequence with explosives allegedly planted earlier by Iran.

In the US, Americans should realise that the pounding of Iran's little navy by superior US warships and jets last Monday did not end the prospect of more combat between the two on the fringe of the Iran-Iraq war.

But there are still questions of how to deal with Iranian forces in a future emergency and whether the Pentagon will increase its 25-ship Gulf fleet if President Reagan expands protection beyond 11 Kuwaiti tankers and other US-flags.

Defence Department spokesman Don Howard said at the week-end that 13 American warships will leave the US next week for "rotation" duty in the Gulf, but he refused to say when vessels there are scheduled to replace it will return home.

The United States currently has six minesweeping ships in the Gulf, but none of the 13 vessels depending next week is capable of finding and destroying mines.

Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci told reporters that one major problem when dealing with Tehran is the difficulty in measuring Iranian attitudes and actions by Western standards.

He and other officials said Washington had made very clear of anonymity said: "The more plausible inference is that the hijackers are still in Algeria."

An Arab diplomat in Kuwait also said the hijackers were "probably still in Algeria." He said that was the "current belief" in Kuwait.

The diplomats and officials in Kuwait said they based their comments on information from various Arab capitals, but they would not elaborate.

The hijackers surrendered early, Wednesday apparently after they were promised safe conduct to another country.

The plane was hijacked on April 5 as it was flying from Bangkok to Kuwait with 112 people aboard. The hijackers' disappearance ended the ordeal for the 51 passengers and crew members left aboard the jetliner.

A non-Kuwaiti official was quoted as saying hours after the aircraft and the remaining hostages were turned over to the

then attacked and badly damaged by a laser-guided bomb, according to Howard.

Instead of sinking the Sahalan, Howard said, Carlucci gave an order from the Pentagon Command Centre for US ships and aircraft to let the frigate limp home with the help from two tugs because American forces had meanwhile sunk the missile patrol boat Joshua.

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A Defence Department spokesman, Maj. Randy Morger, said he had no information on the report.

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The Yugoslavian Ambassador to Kuwait, Dr. Hasan Dervish-begovic (third right) visited Kuwait Science Club on Saturday where he toured the club's various departments with officials of the club. The ambassador, the former Yugoslavian education minister, spoke with club officials about ways Kuwait Science Club and Yugoslavian institutions could work together on the exchange of information and ideas. He is pictured with officials from Kuwait Science Club.

## Othman to head team to probe hijack

THE Kuwaiti government yesterday nominated the Minister of Justice and Legal Affairs Dhari Al Othman to head a committee that would take the task of investigating the details and the circumstances of the hijack incident.

In its regular session, the Cabinet agreed to establish the committee, which will include the membership of four non-governmental personalities in addition to the minister of justice.

The Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Al Rashed stated after the meeting that the committee would carefully examine all circumstances that led to the hijack ordeal and try to find out all factors leading to it, such as security lapses and other factors facilitating such an act.

Al Rashed added that the committee has three months to submit its report which must precisely pin down whose responsibility it was and what were the points of inadequate security.

Commented At the outset of the meeting which was chaired by HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, Al Rashed said that two letters sent by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to HH the Amir were discussed.

The two letters were related to the hijack ordeal. In both letters, Thatcher commended Kuwait's firm stand in not bowing down to blackmail of the terrorists.

In the meeting, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Saud Al Othman briefed the cabinet on the minutes of the hijack incident since it landed in Algeria. Osami

headed the Kuwaiti delegation in the negotiations in Algeria leading to the end of the operation.

The cabinet expressed its appreciation for efforts spent by Osami and the State Minister for Services Issa Al Mazidi, who headed Kuwait's delegation in Cyprus when the plane was there.

The 16-day skyjacking of Al Jazeera jumbo jet has set a historical record, that despite its peaceful end resulted in the deaths of two innocent young Kuwaitis.

Housing In the meantime, the Cabinet listened to a report by the Minister of Housing Nasser Al Roudhan in which he spoke in details about the problem in Al Dhalhar area which is reflected in the collapse of tens of houses as a result of ground weakness.

Al Roudhan told the cabinet that the task team charged with studying the dangerous phenomenon is still working on it and needs more time to finalise its recommendations.

He also explained that the public housing authority has not hesitated to provide alternative housing units for those whose houses were damaged in Al Dhalhar.

The Cabinet also was briefed by the Minister of Oil Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa about the state of the oil market in the world and the purpose of the upcoming meeting of Opec ministerial committee in light of the meetings of the price committee with the non-Opec members earlier in the month.

The cabinet also discussed several political issues pertaining to Arab, regional and international questions.

## 19 countries to take part in Quran contest

KUALA LUMPUR, April 24. (Kuna: Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Iraq and Morocco are among 19 countries which have confirmed participation in the 29th international Quranic reciters and Quranic memorisers assembly and examination beginning in the Malaysian capital on May 2.

Other countries are host Malaysia, Syria, Iran, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Chad, Maldives, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, the Philippines, Singapore and Brunei.

Central organising committee secretary Haji Muda Ali said today that the countries would send a total of 27 participants, comprising 18 men and nine women.

The champions in each section will receive \$5,000, a challenge trophy to the form of a Quran in a silver case, a commendation certificate and souvenirs.

Last year, 33 participants representing 23 countries took part to the event, with Ali Sayyah Gorji of Iran emerging champion in the men's section and Malaysia's Hajah Sapinah Mamat champion in the women's section.

Construction of temporary offices and a site for storing construction materials were agreed upon, housing for labourers in the Salabiya area was approved. An area of 54,000 square metres was designated for this construction project.

Unless an industrial and economic solution is found, he said, the area of land required for waste disposal will increase in the coming 25 years to 35 square

kilometres. The goal of the project is to find a means of separating solid waste materials from organic materials, using the solid wastes for raw materials in industries and the organic wastes for fertilisers and agricultural use.

At Huntuiddi said the development of such a project had been studied for 12 years by several ministries and government establishments such as Kuwait Municipality, Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research and the Industrial Bank. He said the Industrial Investment Company would study the economic and technical aspects of the project and that the project would be completed within 18 months.

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## KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

### Amir's speech praised

TWO Kuwaiti papers yesterday praised the speech delivered Saturday night by HH the Amir of Kuwait following the end of the hijacking ordeal.

Al Watan said the Amir spoke in the "language of dialogue, peace and love while the noise of bombs and missiles... are heard around us."

"This is Kuwait's language. It is simple but clear, peaceful but firm," the newspaper pointed out.

Supporting the Amir's words in which he stressed the fairness of justice in Kuwait, the paper said that no one would "doubt the honesty of justice in Kuwait," noting that "we have nothing to hide, therefore we were strong in confronting the blackmail of the hijackers of the (Kuwaiti) plane."

The paper repeated HH the Amir's words that Kuwait's national unity came out of the hijacking ordeal stronger, stressing that "tampering with the national unity means tampering with our existence and future."

The daily noted that the Amir's speech linked Kuwait's sorrows and glories with those of the Arabs, because Kuwait is part of the Arab world.

Al Watan concluded that the Amir's address expresses "what is in every Kuwaiti's mind."

Al Rai Al Am highlighted the Amir's words which said "that Kuwait's dignity is not a product in the market of politics and Kuwait's principles are not papers on the negotiation tables."

The paper underscored the unity of the Kuwaiti government and people and said "we stood as one man against the criminals..."

The newspaper said that Kuwait has suffered several plots and aggressions but it always came out of these ordeals stronger and more united and obiding by its principles.

The hijackers tried to stir rifts into the Kuwaiti community but they failed to do so due "to the awareness of the Kuwaiti people and their leadership," Al Rai Al Am stressed.

(Mossad) was planning to liquidate Palestinian leaders to take the heat from the Palestinian uprising.

The PLO leadership studied the potential threat carefully and took precautionary measures in Tunis and other Arab capitals where senior Palestinian officials are based.

But the attack on Palestinian officials was expected to come in the form of car bomb explosions, they said, indicating that the bloody assault on Abu Jihad's house in Tunis was not in the calculations.

Abu Jihad himself had been the one who discounted the possibility of such an attack and thought the car bomb explosion and planting bombs in PLO offices were more likely, the officials told newspaper.

The paper also quoted "reliable" sources as saying the French intelligence had made it known to the PLO that Israel was planning to kill Palestinian leaders.

Threat She had interviewed Abu Jihad several times in the past years and shown vehement support for the Palestinian cause, the paper's sources said.

Meanwhile, PLO executive committee members who were attending memorial service for Abu Jihad in Amman, told newspaper they had prior knowledge that Israel's intelligence agency

growth of children. She said that improving health awareness was a good protection against malnutrition diseases.

She said the catering department was fitting the mobile unit with all necessary equipment.

The unit is a bus fitted with a television set and video, in addition to seats for a large number of persons. The unit will soon be taken to summer clubs, women's societies, motherhood centres and clinics, she said.

Body found THE Kuwaiti Navy found the body of a frogman floating in territorial waters recently.

The medical examination of the body showed it was the body of a 30 year old man and had some burn marks.

It was believed the man was a victim of the Iraq-Iran war and the body floated into Kuwaiti waters.

She said that the programme was started because it was easier to contact mothers in their neighbourhoods.

She said the malnutrition problems and the low levels of health awareness were factors that helped spread some diseases, such as obesity, thinness, high blood pressure and slow

factories. She said that most people preferred traditional Arab sweets to foreign confectionery during Ramadan and there was almost a 20 per cent drop in sales of foreign sweets.

He said that daily sales during Ramadan averaged KD450, and traditional Arab sweets accounted for the biggest amount.

Another shop owner said that shops which sold low quality confectionery did not serve their customers.



## EVENTS

## INDIAN VIDEO ROUNDUP

## Disgusting stereotypes

By Fathima Ahmed

HOW many faces of Eve are there?

In films there is only one — the stereotype — the woman with forlorn eyes who lets everyone walk over her, suffers humiliation and prays for her husband's health and wealth, sheds a bucketful of tears when the playboy hubby falls ill, spends the night in the temple praying for his recovery, long life and so on.

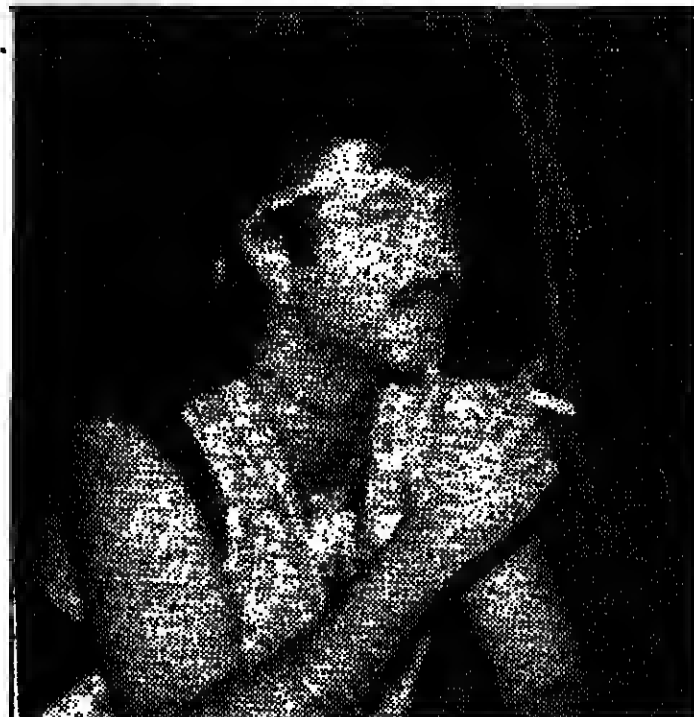
The female stereotype gets a few more seedy attributes in *Kab Tak Chup Rahungi*. She does all of the above and goes a step further — she is a masochist. She burns her hand "to atone for his sins"; waters plants with her blood and runs errands (with tears in her eyes but a smile on her face) for the hubby's live-in mistress. Disgusting.

Such stilted views apparently activate tearducts; exploitative themes usually come from the south, which specialises in weepies. This particular one is based on a Telugu film called *Malape Gopaludu*, dubbed as an "emotion packed" film.

*Kab Tak* is an emotionally twisted, weak scripted film, that was initially supposed to be a romance and later becomes a pathetic, sick tale of a woman's degradation. It is about boatman Gopal (Aditya Pancholi) and his affection of Memsahab (Amala), who marries someone else (Kiran Kumar). So, the boatman moves to the city, takes up a job in Memsahab's house and watches her soak pillows with tears. She suffers silently (the title of the film) ... that is until the penultimate scene when the husband douses her with gasoline and threatens to burn her alive. At that point, apparently, she has had enough of the nonsense and gives a fiery lecture — as Memsahab and Gopal walk away hand in hand.

And you are told to "Remember. It's a K.C. Bokadia production."

Bokadia believes that his film is a tragedy.



Anil Kapoor in Kasam

Dada Kondke has made a comedy on the same theme. The film, called *Aage Ki Soch* was released yesterday. Amala, who made her Hindi film debut in Kamalahasan's silent movie, *Pushpak*, plays Memsahab in *Kab Tak*, wasting her talent in a mediocre, badly written film. Aditya Pancholi, who appeared in many made-for-TV movies, makes a disastrous entry on the big screen as Gopal. Aditya's wooden performance could be due to the poor script: there is no scope for developing the character. As Gopal, Aditya is required to clench his fists, stomp his feet and dust furniture — that is when he is not singing by the river.

A film that kicks up a lot of dust and settles of mediocrity is *Kasam* (The Promise). Everyone in *Kasam* makes a promise. Vowing to outdo the others in deeds good or bad.

The evil outnumber the virtuous, the bad are on the up and up and the good slide down and after a while they all seem evil.

The prime example of evil is the one-eyed crook who lies in

the pond, with a dozen women entwined around him, and distributes hashish to his "slaves" plots murders and vows to create an army of addicts, who are dependent on him.

Next, a half-naked woman with a fleshy belly gyrates in the den where more cold-blooded murders take place. The horse riders kick up dust, the dead bodies slump and the smuggler is arrested.

The End? No way. This is just the beginning of the mayhem, more blood flows in the valley of the poppy growers, who earn a living by selling opium. The villagers are then taken hostage by a cunning gangster, who rapes women and kills men.

*Kasam's* formula is blood-spilling, spine-chilling and wine-swilling — the tussle between the good and the bad. The ugly are left to fend for themselves, the complex misunderstanding stretches the formula beyond imaginative limits and ultimately leads to the climax, when bombs explode everywhere (no one but the extras die in such sequences). Romancing in the rain results in the inevitable — a baby.

Poonam Dhillon plays a



Forgive me: Amala and Kiran Kumar in Kab Tak Chup Rahungi



Aditya Pancholi and Amala in Kab Tak Chup Rahungi

village belle who welcomes strangers with bullets; falls in love with a dimwit (Anil Kapoor) who turns out to be a policeman. Kapoor's comic capers are fine but they're like jarring notes in an off-key symphony. Kader Khan as the hen-chman of the man in power is

tolerable; and Gulshan Grover as the ugly Jinda seems to be the only plausible character in *Kasam*. As Jinda, Grover gives a new meaning to villainy. He is so bad he must be good. The above films are by courtesy of Athari Video, Main St., Farwania. Tel: 4712900.



Poonam Dhillon



● Some 42 Kuwait Hilton employees recently completed training courses in management studies, first aid and Arabic and English languages. The courses were held by the hotel's Training Centre, under the supervision of Personnel and Training Manager Ghassan Akache. The courses are held to improve service at the hotel. The employees recently received the certificates at a special ceremony. Above: some employees pictured with Hilton's General Manager Klaus Martensen and Ghassan Akache.

## VACANCY

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## TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

## KTV 1

- 1.00 Holy Quran
- 1.10 Tin Tin: Cartoons
- 2.00 Al Moatimid Bin Ibad: historical serial, starring Osama Al Mashini, Nidal Al Asbgar, Mahmoud Saeed.
- 3.00 Istafarat Ramadan
- 3.35 Dukkan Al Duniya: daily serial, featuring Muna Wasel, Mohammad Al Ibad, Jayana Eid.
- 4.45 Tazzawaj: Wa Ibtisem Lilhayat: featuring Samir Ghanim, Raghdah, Ahmad Badar, Suad Nasar.
- 5.30 Hadith Deeni: religious talk by Sheikh Mohammad Mutwalli Al Sharawi.
- 6.30 Cartoons
- 6.45 After Iftar
- 7.00 Madinat Al Riyah: children's serial, starring Khalid Al Obaid, Abdul Rahman Al Aqal, Jassim Nabhan, Mohammad Jaber, Ahmad Saleh.
- 8.00 Alwan: hosted by Rolah Al Farah
- 8.30 Quran and Science: presented by Ahmad Shawki
- 9.10 Dairat Al Abbab: religious programme
- 9.30 Ramadan Contest
- 10.00 News in Arabic
- 11.00 12'aj: local serial.



Angela Lansbury with co-stars in Murder She Wrote, tonight on KTV 2.

- featuring Ghanem Al Saleh, Zainab Al Dahi, Maryam Al Ghabban.
- 12.00 Late Night Serial: Thaman Al Kbouf, starring: Noor Al Shariff, Hala Fuad, Amina Rizk, Jamil Rateb.
- 1.00 Hilm Alal Hamish: Arabic drama, featuring Suad Abdur Rahman, Mohammad Hussein Abdur Raheem, Jalal Kamel.
- 2.15 News Summary
- 2.20 Holy Quran/Closedown

## KTV 2

- 8.00 Holy Quran
- 8.10 Wildlife: cartoon serial
- 8.30 News in English
- 8.45 Football: The Amir's Cup. The

- winner of Group B vs winner of Group G.
- 10.30 Murder She Wrote: "Witness for the Defence." Jessica examines clues to the murder of her best friend in Canada, where she is visiting.
- 11.30 Survival: "Gallapagos: How They Got There?" A look at the formation of the Gallapagos islands.
- 12.00 Hanlon: "The Defence on Hugh Sweeney." A man is accused of murder on circumstantial evidence. Is he the real killer?
- 1.30 News in Brief
- 1.40 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

## RADIO PROGRAMMES

## English

- Morning
- 0800 Opening
- 0802 Songs and Music
- 0805 Science Journal
- 0830 News
- 0840 Songs and Music
- 0845 Daily Programme
- 0900 Songs and Music
- 0915 Writers and Their Works
- 0920 Radio Magazine Supplement
- 1000 Our Press Today
- 1005 Songs and Music
- 1100 Closedown
- 1330 News on FM Service
- Evening
- 2100 Opening
- 2102 Bits and Bytes
- 2130 News
- 2145 Point of View
- 2155 Songs and Music
- 2200 Facts About Zionism
- 2215 Magazine Special
- 2245 Daily Programme
- 2300 Fell Mell
- 2400 Closedown

## BBC World Services

- 0000 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Radio Newsworld
- 30 Religious Service
- 0100 News Summary followed by 11th Feature; 18th The Drum; 25th The Mornoo Conquest.
- 45 Virtuosos
- 0200 World News
- 09 Commentary
- 15 Peebles' Choice
- 30 Science in Action
- 0300 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Good Books
- 30 Anything Goes
- 0400 Newsworld
- 30 Augustus Corp Esq By Himself (ex 25th Behind the Wall)
- 45 Reflections
- 50 Waveguide
- 0500 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Nature Notebook

- 45 Recording of the Week
- 0600 Newsworld
- 30 Six Cities
- 0700 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Can Communism Cope?
- 0800 World News
- 09 Reflections
- 15 Augustus Corp Esq By Himself (ex 25th Behind the Wall)
- 30 Anything Goes
- 0900 World News
- 09 British Press Review
- 15 Good Books
- 30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup
- 45 Peebles' Choice
- 1000 News Summary followed by Six Cities
- 30 The Vintage Chart Show.
- 1100 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Tech Talk
- 30 Album Time
- 1200 Radio Newsworld
- 15 My World!
- 45 Sports Roundup
- 1300 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Anything Goes

## NIGHT CHEMIST

- Kuwait
- Al Hajeri Pharmacy
- Al Salam Pharmacy
- Abdullah Al Mubarak St.
- Hawalli and Nagra
- Al Badar Pharmacy
- Tunis St.
- Salmiya and Rumaithiya
- Hibaa Pharmacy
- Salem Al Mubarak St.
- Fahadeel and Ahmadi
- Al Sadaf Pharmacy
- Makkah St.
- New Khaitan
- Al Fahd Pharmacy
- New Khaitan
- Jahra
- Al Zahra Pharmacy
- New Souk

## CINEMA TODAY

- Al Andalus
- Ice Pirates
- Starring: Mary Crosby
- Al Salmiya
- Latino
- Starring: Robert Beltrini
- Al Hamra
- Police Story
- Starring: Jackie Chan
- Drive-In
- Hikayat Nus Million Dinar (Arabic)
- Starring: Yahya Fakhrani, Iham Shahin
- Al Firdous
- Kali Dada (Hindi)
- Starring: Krishna, Bhanu Priya
- Fahadeel Open-Air
- Shaan (Hindi)

- Al Fahadeel
- Hot Shot
- Al Jahra
- Hell Camp
- Granada
- Kill Zone
- Salaibikhat
- Doin' Time
- Al Jleeb
- Marzada (Bengali)
- Ahmadi Drive-In
- Monster Shark

## PRAYERS

- Fajr 3.46 am
- Zuhr 11.46
- Asr 3.21 pm
- Maghreb 6.21
- Isha 7.43

head. May 10: Club A.G.M. at Gazelle Club, 7.30 pm.

● All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursday, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Planned-in entries will not be accepted.

## WHAT'S ON

## ARTS

Sultan Gallery  
"The Islamic Heritage of Spain" is open daily from 10 am to 1 pm and 7 to 10 pm at the Sultan Gallery, Thunayan Al Ghanim Bldg., Al Soor St.

## THEATRE

Kuwait School of Contemporary Dance  
The company will present two ballets "Carnival" and "The Never Ending Story" from April 25 to 29, 8.30 pm nightly, at the Mousetrap Theatre, NES, Jabriya. Tickets KD 4. The box office at the Mousetrap is open daily from 4 to 7 pm. For telephone bookings ring 5610673, 8 am to 1 pm.

French Concert  
The French Al Kindi Group will give a recital of classical Arab music and old French baroque music on May 1, 8.30 pm, at the Meridien Hotel. Tickets — KD5 — are available at the French Cultural Centre, French Embassy, Meridien Hotel and Voltaire Institute. Their programme has been organised by the French Embassy's Cultural Centre.

Folk Night  
There will be a meeting of the Kuwait Folk Group on Wednesday, April 27. For more information contact Bob Stucker, 5320284.

## SOCIAL

YMCA Holiday Special  
The Young Men's Cricket Association (YMCA) will hold the Holiday Special on May 17, Messilah Beach Hotel. Highlights are music by Top Ranks with special competitions such as Made for Each Other contest and Funky King and Queen. For reservations contact Lancy — 4814914, 9 am to 4 pm, 3981790, 3929518, 5 to 8 pm.

Kumustahan  
The next Filipino get-together (Kumustahan) will be held from 6 to 9 pm on April 29 at the Church Hall. All Filipinos are welcome. Snacks will be served.

Story Time  
There will be story time for children on Thursday, April 28, at 10.30 am. Children of ages between three and six, all nationalities, are welcome.

## SPORTS

Raft Race  
The captains' meeting for the second Kuwait Annual Raft Race will be held on Tuesday, April 26, at 8 pm in Al Foz Suite, Messilah Beach Hotel.

Kuwait Namada Rugby Club  
Calendar for May:  
May 1: Full match at Fintas. Kick off: 7.30 pm. Attendance compulsory for Cyprus tourists, all others welcome. Match followed by tour meeting to pay outstanding monies.  
May 5: Game at Fintas. Men vs women plus kids — kick off: 4.30 pm. Attendance compulsory for tourists. Game followed by BBQ — KD2.500 per



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Interviews will be held on:  
Tuesday 26/4/1988  
Wednesday 27/4/1988  
Between 11:00 am to 2:30 pm.



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7/538M	Insulation Materials	"	"	"
7/579M	Ammonia Analyser	"	"	"
7/592M	Phosphoric Acid	"	"	"
7/041N	Cleaning Rags	"	"	"
7/070N	Plain Tube for Heat Exchangers	"	"	"
7/084N	Platinized Titanium Anodes	"	"	20-6-1988
7/093N	Pipes	"	"	"
7/219N	Tri - Sodium Phosphate	"	"	"
7/313N	Agitators	"	"	"
7/333N	Oxygen Analyser	KD. 2/-	2-5-1988	20-6-1988

Tender documents can be purchased from the office of the HPPC secretary at KNPC Head Office on 1st floor, Room No. 57 as from: 2-5-1988.

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## Tour de force technique fuels the art of David Hockney

## Painted documents of the good life

By Mariena Donohue

Los Angeles — David Hockney is probably one of the most generally popular artists working today. His shimmering turquoise pools and languid male bathers are ubiquitous icons of the American good life. In the same sweep, hard-boiled critical consensus acknowledges that Hockney may well be one of the most innately gifted and facile draughtsmen since Matisse.

Somewhere between his early study at the Bradford School of Art in England and attaining the age of 50, Hockney has turned into an art superstar whose persona and polyglot style have the uncanny ability to bridge sensibilities from the highbrow to the vernacular.

Hockney has written — and been the subject of — a handful of books; his life and personal foibles were captured in the widely released film "A Bigger Splash"; his familiar pool images were among the official emblems of the Los Angeles Olympic Games; and his marvellously moody set designs for operas like Mozart's "Magic Flute" often garner more attention than the leading soprano.

Now the multifaceted David Hockney is the subject of an ambitious and eye-opening career retrospective appropriately debuting in Los Angeles — Hockney's adopted home — at the L.A. County Museum through April 24. Culled from museums and private collections, the prodigious undertaking goes a long way toward putting this artist in perspective, separating the myth from the man, the media phenomenon from earned accolades.

The exhibition spans three decades via some 150 paintings, 60 drawings, samples of photography, graphics, and a model from Hockney's recent impish sets for Wagner's opera "Tristan and Isolde." After its showing here, "David Hockney: A Retrospective" travels to the Metropolitan Museum in New York (June 18-Aug. 14), then to the Tate Gallery in London (Oct. 26-Jan. 3, 1989). Though the hanging of this show makes a great effort to homogenize, rather than highlight, the intercon-

Contemporary art superstar David Hockney is the subject of a major career retrospective in his adopted home, Los Angeles. The exhibition, which will also travel to New York and London, goes a long way towards putting this artist in perspective, and separating the myth from the man.



David Hockney's Portrait of an Artist (pool with two figures), a painting on acrylic.

ting contradictions in Hockney's career, its comprehensive scope gives a telling evolutionary overview.

A youthful, beautifully realistic painting of the artist's father from 1955 has all the sensitive modelling and sombre, robust detail of the Renaissance or Dutch tradition. Just a year later, however, predating and possibly anticipating the look and strategies of English Pop Art, Hockney paints himself in a flat, childlike style closer to cartoons or book illustration, his hair reduced to wavy dark lines, background detail abstracted into a colourful squiggly pattern.

This uncanny tension between masterly drawing skill and a knack for seeing the world with the colourful stylized directness of an artist like Matisse animates all of Hockney's art.

Hockney came of age in the '60s, during the heyday of Lon-

don's avant-garde movement, fed by British Pop Art and the American Abstract Expressionists. Works from this period are wry, highly conceptual spoofs, using language and pun as well as imagery to nuzzle contemporary manners. "Tea Painting in an Illusionistic Style" immortalises a huge box of English tea in a painterly slapdash style that off-handedly nods to Andy Warhol. In "The Second Marriage," he limns beautiful primitive bride-and-groom figures with the jostled, jagged anatomy of Willem de Kooning.

In '64 Hockney moved to Los Angeles, where he says his style and his vision were acutely influenced by the area's sun-saturated clarity, colours, and geometric '50s architecture. The absence of London's dense atmosphere elicited from Hockney work that was seductively pretty, even amiably bedonistic,

but which also made a serious campaign of investigating how we see, how colour and light interact — all the ways this information might be transferred to the taut artificial surface of the canvas.

With analytical charm, Hockney reduces sunlight on California pools into puzzle-piece mosaics or serpentine white lines in these pieces. Light surrounds his figures and defines them with the stark linear detail of graphic art. The edgy psychological prod always present in Hockney's work from youth is embedded in superficially playful documents like the "Beverly Hills Housewife" or "Two Boys in Pool, Hollywood."

The predictable Hockney that everyone expects and loves — the artist of unassailable technique and visually soothing images, elegant and safe enough to grace the homes of well-heeled

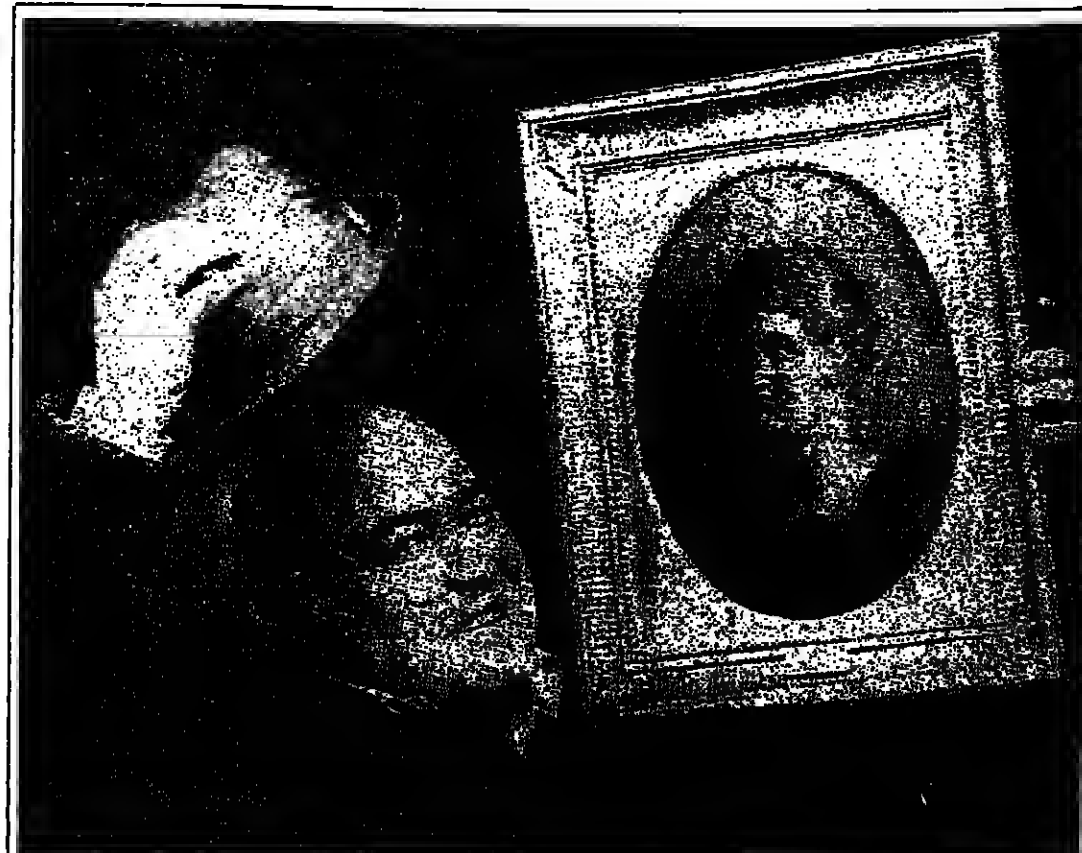
collectors — is represented in "Corbusier Chair and Rug," "Still Life on Glass Table," and "Mt. Fuji and Flowers." Much as one may want to fault these works for their utterly digestible perfection, it is not easy to do.

Hockney's famous portraiture is sampled in several absolutely fine self-portraits and fragile renditions of the now-famous Celia, a London fabric designer and a member of the Hockney circle. Hockney's large-scale double portraits are not just impeccably painted documents of cultural life, but also probing statements about the "givens" of human relationships. One sitter looks blankly out at us; the other looks wistfully to the person sharing his space. One sitter stands boldly in the foreground; the other stands reticent and preoccupied in the back. Clearly one of the most beautiful of these is "Christopher Isherwood and Don Bachardy."

Provocative Least touted, but possibly among his finest and most provocative works, are Hockney's photo collages, which build realistic scenes from literally dozens of small images. These approximate the kaleidoscope sense of space of early Cubist works and share the Cubists' concerns about how much we actually see, what the mind fills in for us, and what perspective is.

When Hockney tries to graft this sweeping and bending Cubist space onto playful romping paintings like "Mulholland Drive," the results are far less interesting. There are low points, which really do ring of cliché, like "Some Nest Cushions," but almost everything, even Hockney's latest foray into Expressionistic works in the style of late Picasso, are difficult to fault.

Fame has its costs. Purists still chafe at Hockney as a dabbler, or worse, a merchandiser of formulaic pabulum, about as provocative as a comfortable easy chair. The high points of this exhibition may force even those cynics, however, to concede that a relentless and genuine spirit of experimentation, a clarity of vision, and tour-de-force technique fuel the art of David Hockney. 1988, The Christian Science Monitor News Service.



Vincent Rocks, Scunthorpe council's art and leisure chairman, shows off the newly-found Rubens, which was bought for £5, twenty years ago.

## Old master for only £5

By Colin Wright

A PAINTING bought at auction for just £5 by a Yorkshire art gallery more than 20 years ago has been authenticated as being by Rubens.

For years the 13in by 10in portrait of the Emperor Otho hung almost unnoticed in a corner of Scunthorpe Art Gallery, described as a work by a pupil of the Titian school. But research has shown that the seemingly insignificant canvas is the gallery's only Old Master — painted by Rubens around 1620 as part of a set of portraits of Roman emperors, and conservatively valued at more than £50,000.

The work was bought in 1967 by former Scunthorpe art gallery curator, Mr Michael Kirkby, when it was auctioned as part of the estate of the late Earl of Faversham.

Years later Prof. Michael Jaffe, director of Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge and an expert on the paintings of Rubens, examined the portrait and had no doubt that it was a work by the master himself.

The authentication has left Scunthorpe Council with a problem. The painting has had to be removed from the public gaze until security at the gallery can be improved.

"You do not often pick up an Old Master for a fiver and so we must be careful," said Mr Vin-

cent Rocks, chairman of the local authority's Arts and Leisure Committee. "The painting will definitely not be sold."

The present Lord Faversham, chairman of the Yorkshire Arts Committee, who lives at Duncombe Park in Helmsley, North Yorkshire, has no regrets that a family treasure should have been sold at auction for just £5.

"I am delighted the picture has found such a splendid home and I hope it will go on display to the public very soon," he said.

Lord Faversham, 43, admitted that the painting, sold as part of his ancestors' estate, was the only Rubens owned by the family.

By Daniel B. Wood

SAN MARINO, Calif. — When a friend from abroad called recently to say he was coming to southern California, he said he wanted to visit all the "must see" tourist destinations. "You know — Disneyland, Walk of Fame, Studio Tours, Venice Beach," he said.

"Have you heard of the Huntington?" I asked. "Huh?" he replied.

Such is the image problem of southern California beyond its borders: What is probably its cultural crown jewel goes largely unnoticed amid the surrounding tinsel.

Yet now that I've lived here long enough to sort out the substance from the merely stylish, the Huntington has become my No. 1 choice of places to take out-of-town visitors. My goal is simple. I want to impress them with a quality and depth not usually associated with Los Angeles, a bastion of television and pop culture, and let them luxuriate in the most opulent oasis of green in a desert of urban sprawl.

The Huntington Library, Botanical Garden, and Art Gallery, after all, is:

— One of the great research libraries of the world (2.2 million manuscripts, 360,000 rare books, and 253,000 reference books) specialising in British and American history, literature, and art from 11th century to the present.

— One of the best collections of 18th and 19th-century English paintings found outside Europe — including Gainsborough's "Blue Boy," Sir Thomas Lawrence's "Pinkie," and landscapes by Constable, Turner, and Palmer.

— About 200 acres of meticulously kept botanical gardens, representing 14,000 kinds of plants (all labelled), a 12-acre Desert Garden with the largest grouping of mature cactuses and succulents in the world, and a Japanese house, moonbridge, and bonsai court.

I describe it to my friends as a sort of subtropical Versailles. Henry Huntington amassed his fortune building and selling America's first railroads.

When he moved to San Marino in 1903, he built, in the words of historian Kevin Starr, "the most lavish private house in Southern California before the construction of the Hearst Castle in San Simeon" and "turned the ranch grounds adjacent into the most elaborate private garden in America."

Huntington also began to collect with a vengeance and "set about to transform his San Marino estate into a utopia of high culture."

The legacy of what he collected and built opened a year after his death in 1927. It's important to mention the gardens, art collection, and library all in one breath because the Huntington has achieved fame for each of these features independently of the others. Each alone would make a trip worth writing about.

So abundant is the Hunting-

## California's cultural jewel

ton collection that you can't expect to see all things at once. You have to pick and choose if you are going to get anything accomplished. But the flip side to that is: You can keep going back without running out of things, to see or do.

We always start with a quick trip around the grounds, beginning with my favourite 12 acres of the succulents.

If you thought the fork-shaped saguaro cactus was the only desert plant with needles, guess again. There are 60 species of pincushion cactuses (Mammillaria) alone, not to mention bizarre flat, round, oblong, spindly, and spiky cactuses growing in the interstices of lava rock, all framed with an otherworldly skyline of yuccas and palms.

One of my favourites, crammed in tightly next to one another in the so-called Desert Garden is the "creeping desert cactus." It resembles a 10-foot cross between a porcupine and a python. There is also the yucca filifera, a towering, shaggy tree-like plant from central Mexico that seems fit for a set on "Star Wars."

There are 12 other gardens to choose from — rose and cannella among them (the latter with

1,600 varieties) — but we invariably end up at the Japanese Garden, certainly the highlight of the outdoor Huntington. A vermilion moonbridge arches over a koi-filled pond. Iris plants fringe the edge. A zigzag bridge (to frustrate evil spirits that are believed to travel in only straight lines) connects the Japanese house to the Zen garden of raked sand and gravel.

A collection of dwarfed bonsai trees graces the inner courtyard. Walking across the rest of the grounds past acacia and jacaranda trees, rock streams, and marmalade bushes, you need scissors to cut through the aroma that hangs in the air. And on a sunny day (practically every day), you'll need sunglasses for the brilliance of the colour.

"There are widespread lawns on hillsides arching down to give you a full view of distant hills to the south and the snowcapped San Gabriel Mountains to the north. Here you can sit on benches in a sculpture-fringed fountain garden or go on inside.

If you choose the latter, you're still in for a lot of work — and difficult choices.

The Christian Science Monitor.

## Netsuke — microcosm of Japanese craftsmanship

By J. Howard Farrar

LONDON: The Great Room at famous Christie's international auction house in St James's, London, was hushed. Yet another great art collection, assembled over years and dispersed in a day, would find its culmination in world acclaim — and high prices.

Three hundred fifty pieces from the Raymond and Frances Bushell collection of Japanese netsuke were being offered to fellow collectors and dealers from around the world. Expectations were high. This was one of the finest collections of its kind in the world.

The netsuke was a small but essential part of Japanese dress in the days when the kimono was worn, especially during the Tokugawa period (1615-1868).

Since the kimono was made without pockets, all the small necessities of life, such as money and writing materials, were carried in a sectioned box called an inro, suspended from a cord worn under the kimono sash. The netsuke was needed to draw the cord tight around the waist.

"A Japanese would own several netsuke, just as a Westerner owns several neckties," says Mr Bushell, an American lawyer, who has become one of the world's leading authorities on the subject. "He would choose his netsuke to fit his ensemble, according to the occasion, the season, or even his mood."

The netsuke craftsmen carved their pieces mainly from ivory and wood, but occasionally from stag antler, bamboo, porcelain, lacquer, or metal. Not for nothing are the Japanese famous for their attention to the least detail.

The functional purpose of the netsuke imposed severe limitations on the craftsmen, not the least of which was the need for two connecting holes through which the cord could be threaded.

"They were in daily use," says Bushell. "If they were too fragile they wouldn't suit their purpose. A true netsuke should be compact, strong, and powerful."

The design needed to be com-

pact, with no element sticking out to catch in the sleeve. Delicate detail had to be cleverly protected from harm. One fine example of this in the collection is carved with a bat, whose sturdy wings encircle and protect its young.

Nor could the netsuke be allowed to become too large. Anything from one to two inches in height is normal, although they occasionally stretch to six or seven.

The practical limitations, however, did not present insuperable difficulties to the ingenious craftsman. He developed the netsuke into a miniature form of sculpture, which is now seen as a microcosm of Japanese taste.

Subjects for decoration were drawn from everyday life as well as the many myths and legends of the country. Animals, birds, flowers, and even food abound, all keenly observed — and nowhere is the humour of the Japanese more clearly in evidence than in the netsuke.

A single netsuke was sold for (STR) 110,000 (about \$200,200) in London earlier this year. Bushell predicts that \$50,000 will soon be as common for a netsuke as it has become for a Japanese woodblock print. One reason for the rise in value, he says, will be the market appearance of Japanese collectors, which has not yet happened.

Like many a collector before him, Bushell began his collection almost by accident. He arrived in Japan in 1945, the captain of a sea-air rescue boat attached to the First Corps, United States Army.

On a visit to a gift shop in Osaka, he saw, was captivated by, and bought his first netsuke. Soon afterward, encouragement was to come in the form of Frederick Jonas, the Anglo-Japanese author of the first book in English on the netsuke.

Mr Jonas also worked as a stevedore, and the two met when Jonas ordered the US Army captain to move his boat. Because of Bushell's reluctance to take orders from a civilian, "discussions" followed, during which their common interest

emerged, and Jonas proved to be an inspiration to the budding collector.

Busbell stayed on after the occupation to practice law and to develop his collection. He also developed his historical knowledge of the netsuke and their creators and has written many books and articles.

"I have an enormous advantage in living in Japan," Busbell says.

"I can talk to old boys who remember the Meiji customs (the Meiji period lasted from 1868 to 1912), and dealers who as boys knew some of the artists. They can tell me not only what woods were used, but where they came from. I could never discover this anywhere else."

His collection, "Like Topsy, just grew," he says. The 350 just sold are only the beginning. There are 1,000 to be sold in all. Two more sales are to come, one probably in New York and another in London.

Mr and Mrs Bushell are retaining about 600 choice specimens, which are on long-term loan to the Los Angeles County Museum.

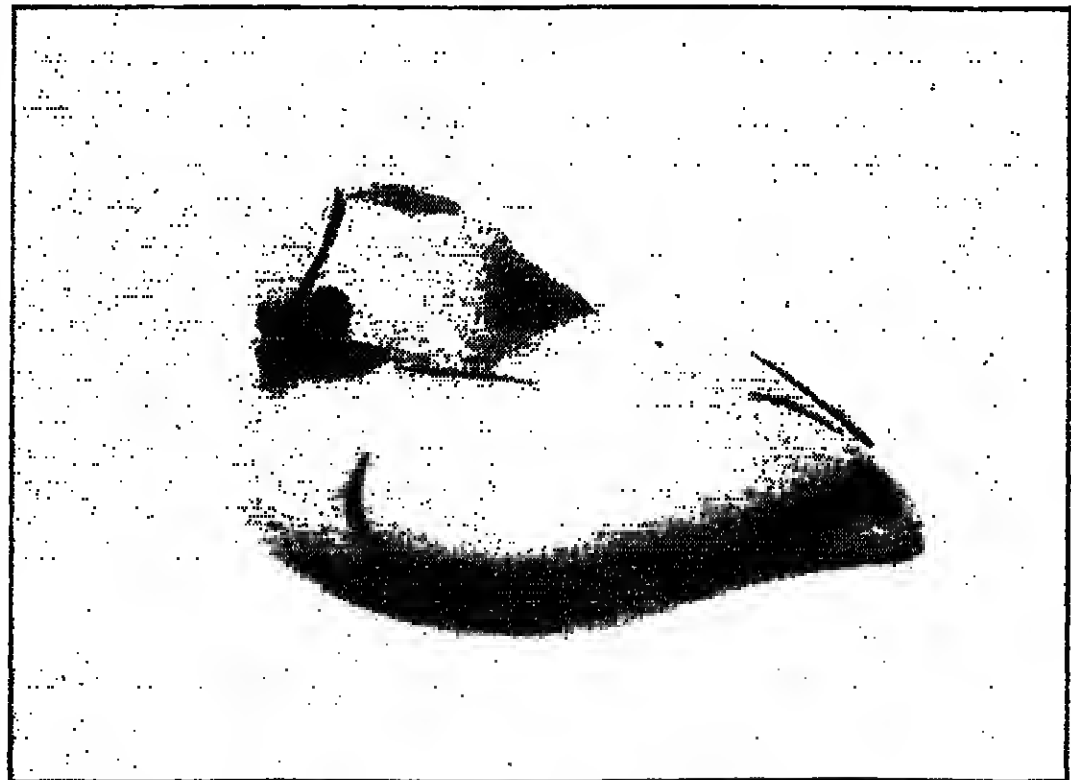
Eventually, they plan to donate them to the museum as part



Ivory netsuke of a fly on an octopus tentacle.

of the Pavilion of Japanese Art, which collector/philanthropist Jo Price is giving and endowing

with his own collection. 1988, The Christian Science Monitor News Service.



Ivory netsuke in the shape of a wild duck by Ohara Mitsuhiro dates from the 19th century.



## EDITORIALS

## ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

THE grandest homage we can pay to truth is to use it—  
Ralph Waldo Emerson, US writer (1803-1882).

## Algeria ignores hijack-role critics

By Alistair Lyon

ALGIERS, (Reuters): Algeria has voiced pride in mediating a peaceful end to the Kuwaiti airliner crisis, ignoring Western critics disturbed that the hijackers apparently went free in return for releasing their hostages.

"Despite the displeasure of some, there is no better victory than that of saving 31 human lives," the state-owned El Moudjahid daily said in a front-page editorial on Thursday.

Algerian mediators won freedom for the 31 remaining hostages aboard the Jumbo jet after eight days of negotiations in which the hijackers sought the release of 17 Shi'ite Muslim militants jailed for 1983 bomb attacks in Kuwait.

El Moudjahid and the rest of Algeria's official media dropped all reference to the hijackers' fate while praising the role of the government.

The hijack ended with no known concessions from Kuwait and the hijackers apparently gained nothing from the drama but publicity and their own safe departure.

The nine gunmen had earlier said they had donned death shrouds and were prepared to blow up the airliner with the captive passengers and crew they had held for 16 days unless their demands were met.

**Rejoice**  
"Algeria is proud of the contribution it was able to make ... and sincerely hopes the whole international community will rejoice at this peaceful solution," Interior Minister El Hadi Khediri told reporters minutes before the hostages stumbled from the hijacked plane at dawn on Wednesday.

His remark seemed to anticipate criticism by Western governments of Algeria's apparent willingness to let the hijackers — who killed two hostages in cold blood at an earlier stop in Cyprus — fly to Iran or Lebanon in exchange for the lives of the remaining hostages.

The US and British governments have expressed alarm at the prospect that the well-drilled commandos, who showed a detailed grasp of aircraft procedures, may elude justice and strike again.

"If terrorists are allowed to escape unpunished, it will only

lead to more hijacks and hostage-taking," an aide to British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher declared.

British hostages were among the 71 freed in Iran and Cyprus before the Kuwaiti jet flew to Algeria.

Algerian officials have remained tight-lipped about the details of any deal, but they clearly made meticulous arrangements to allow the gunmen to slip away from the darkened plane undetected by scores of watching journalists.

Safe passage or lenient treatment for hijackers has been an element in several other hostage dramas that have ended here in recent years, but Algeria has always stressed it was acting from strictly humanitarian motives at the request of the governments concerned.

Algeria extracted a promise from the hijackers that they would commit no violence on Algerian soil as a condition for letting the plane fly here from Larnaca, Cyprus, where two Kuwaiti passengers had been killed.

That promise was kept, but there was no clue as to why it took a full week to reach a solution.

The hijackers, reported to have links to pro-Iranian Shi'ite groups of Lebanon and other Arab countries, used the Algiers stop as a platform for a daily series of media plays to focus world attention on their cause.

Maintaining their ice-cool professional style to the end, the gunmen read a communiqué before they left the jet, saying they had not abandoned their demand for the release of the 17 jailed in Kuwait.

Algerian mediators patiently shuttled between the commando-led Boeing 747 and a Kuwaiti delegation, never allowing a break in the talks that might endanger hostage lives.

The mediation team was led by Mohamed Tahar, a senior security official who has previously served in the Algerian embassy in Lebanon.

In their last statement, the hijackers said: "We have great confidence in Algeria — government and people."

Algeria has based its tradition of mediation on its non-aligned stance and neutrality in the Iran-Iraq war, as well as its proven revolutionary credentials.

## Arms blast stirs anger against Zia

By William Maclean

RAWALPINDI, Pakistan, (Reuters): "These weapons were meant for Afghan guerrillas fighting Russians. This terrible thing should have not happened in Pakistan."

So said Tariq Abbasi, motioning angrily to cracks in his house carved by the shockwave from a deadly explosion one km (less than a mile) away at a Pakistani Army weapons dump.

"Hundreds of Pakistanis lost lives and property ... my house is destroyed."

Such sentiments, shared by many Pakistanis stunned by the April 10 explosion, spell trouble for President Zia-ul-Haq's support for guerrillas fighting the Soviet-backed government in Kabul.

The explosions at the Ojri arsenal sent rockets raining onto the capital Islamabad and its twin city Rawalpindi, killing at least 100 people, wounding about 1,100 and making at least 2,000 homeless.

Streets and buildings shook as missiles up to two metres (yards) long slammed into homes, offices and farmland in a 15 km (nine mile) radius.

## Anger

Public anger has been heightened by rumours, widely believed despite official denials, that Ojri was used as a transit point in a secret pipeline supplying US and Chinese weapons to Afghan guerrillas based in Pakistan.

Some politicians say the blast was retaliatory sabotage by Kabul, a charge Afghanistan denies, while others regard it as the result of Army incompetence.

A large quantity of arms is believed trapped underground at the still-smouldering base. On April 15 it erupted again, firing off 12 missiles and injuring five people.

Up to 50,000 residents are reported to have sought tem-

porary refuge in their home villages.

In political terms, the blast could not have occurred at a worse time for Zia or the anti-Soviet guerrillas for years he has given sanctuary.

The accord on a Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan signed on April 14 by Islamabad and Kabul stipulated an end to outside interference in each other's internal affairs.

## Retaliation

Many Pakistanis had looked forward to an end to Afghan guerrilla activity on their soil that killed more than 250 people. Pakistanis regarded the attacks as retaliation for Zia's support for the mujahideen. Kabul denied the charge.

But public concern was expressed when Zia hinted broadly on the day of the Geneva accord that he would continue to give the guerrillas facilities if Moscow kept up arms supplies to Kabul.

He coupled his remarks with the charge that he believed the Ojri blast was the work of saboteurs. Newspaper commentators and opposition politicians have reacted sharply.

"The irresponsible policy of this government is to involve our country in a secret war," said Rasool Bakhsb Palejo, secretary-general of the left-wing opposition Awami Party.

## Burden

"All the weapons in this arsenal were meant for Afghans," he told Reuters during a tour of Ojri on Wednesday. He named two Afghan guerrilla officers he said were killed at Ojri.

"They (Afghans) must go back to their native land, they are too much of a burden for us," said Anwar-ul-Haq, a labourer standing in a super queue at an emergency relief centre in Rawalpindi's bomb-cratered Dhok Babu Irfan suburb.

## US trying to look more like a superpower

## Washington's goals in the Gulf questioned

By Christopher Hanson

WASHINGTON, (Reuters): American analysts are questioning their government's goals in the Gulf — said by some critics to be confused or unclear — following naval battles that the Reagan administration hailed as a victory.

President Reagan ordered two Iranian oil rigs blasted in retaliation for the holding by a mine of the US frigate Samuel B. Roberts last week and the Iranian Navy shot back, losing two frigates and four other vessels the US claimed it had sunk or crippled.

The clash between Iranian and US forces was easily the highest since US warships began escorting reflagged tankers last July.

Questions being asked in the United States over where Washington is going range from whether it can fulfil its declared aim of protecting navigation in the troubled waterway, through which much of the world's oil flows, to whether it is courting a war with Iran.

**Risk**  
Americans ask to what end the lives of US sailors are being risked. Is it to protect Gulf shipping, deter or punish Iran or help end the Iran-Iraq war?

Some critics suggest the Reagan administration is flexing American muscle in an unspecified and open-ended mission in the hope that it will make the United States look more like a superpower and keeper of order in a turbulent world.

"Our policy has not changed," White House spokesman Martin

Fitzwater said on Wednesday after newspapers reported a major policy review was under way.

"Our policy there is to protect the open navigation of the Gulf," he said. "Our policy there is to represent our interests with our friends in the Gulf states."

Critics say US goals are not so clear or readily defensible.

"We've got to reexamine our policy — we've got to make sure that we don't convert this into a US-Iranian war," said Senator Sam Nunn, the Senate Armed Services Committee chairman.

**Success**  
"The administration is now basking in the glory of a military success that it did not direct," former Reagan Navy Secretary James Wehr declared after the clash.

"We proceed from crisis to crisis without clearly stated national goals, reacting to rather than controlling the ... environment," he wrote in an article published on Wednesday.

Some analysts voiced scepticism over administration statements that its central purpose is to protect shipping.

Middle East scholar Fred Axelgard of the private Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) said the 29-ship US task force was much too small to protect more than a fraction of Gulf shipping.

A serious effort to protect freedom of the seas would require a huge force and would be "way too vast a task for US to undertake," he told Reuters.

Deeming the Gulf policy "very



President Reagan

muddled", retired Navy captain James Bush of the private Centre for Defence Information (CDI), a frequent Reagan critic, said it appeared the US naval presence had made the Gulf more dangerous.

Since US convoys began on July 22, Iran and Iraq have launched 155 attacks on shipping compared with only 58 attacks in the comparable period one year earlier.

US owners of tankers flying foreign flags have asked Washington to extend convoy protection to them.

Washington says it is neutral in the Iran-Iraq war and is seeking a negotiated peace, but analysts say America's tactic goal is to bolster Iraq and its Gulf Arab neighbours and punishing non-Arab Iran.

"Our policy is Arab-obsessed," CSIS Gulf war expert Shireen Hunter said, adding that

Washington had lost sight of the "big picture".

Populous Iran, which shares a border with the Soviet Union, was strategically the most important country in the region and US policy might drive Iran into Soviet arms, she said.

Axelgard said the main US goal had been to restore the confidence of Arab states angered by revelations in November 1986 that Washington had secretly sold arms to Iran in a bid to win freedom for American hostages.

Washington has said it wants the Iran-Iraq war to end without victory for either side.

But Iran specialist Judith Kipper of the private Brookings Institution said America's naval policy could not achieve such a settlement because it seemed to favour Iraq.

**Review**  
Meanwhile, Western powers have started a major review of naval policy in the Gulf after a shoot-out between US and Iranian warships which left Tehran vowing revenge for its dead seamen.

Western military sources in the Gulf said they were likely to freeze plans to scale down their naval forces and might cooperate more closely.

Western governments were asking themselves whether Tehran had altered its policy to one of seeking open confrontation with their navies, the sources said.

France, with only two vessels in the Gulf, has floated the idea of a link-up with other fleets. Other navies have launched a joint min-

esweeping operation since the US frigate Samuel B. Roberts hit a mine.

"The major question is whether ... and to what extent ... the nature of the Iranian threat to shipping has changed since Monday's battle," one military source said.

In the United States, the Reagan administration is reexamining the "rules of engagement" governing its fleet's reaction to possible attack and is under strong domestic pressure to extend escort operations now restricted to US-flag ships.

**Threatened**  
Tehran has threatened Washington with a bitter response to Monday's attacks which sank one of Iran's four British-built frigates and damaged another. A fast attack craft was blown out of the water and Iran says at least 15 seamen were killed.

Reports from US sailors that Iran fired Silkworm missiles at an American warship have increased fears of escalation.

Iran's news agency Irna quoted Prime Minister Mir Hossein Mousavi as saying: "We will not forget the pure blood of Iranians shed by the US mercenaries in the Gulf."

The US, French and British navies had stopped escorting merchant shipping, but a Navy spokesman in London said Britain had resumed protection and a naval patrol accompanied a merchant ship out of the Gulf on Thursday.

The fact that Iran's Navy — a

collection of ageing, poorly armed warships mostly bought by the late Shah's government — engaged superior US forces surprised some Western analysts.

After Washington drafted a big naval force into the Gulf region last July to protect US-registered oil tankers, Iran's Navy and Revolutionary Guards avoided clashes with American warships.

**Harassing**  
Tehran adopted a policy of harassing unprotected merchant ships and its frigates and speedboats manned by guards carried out more than 30 attacks this year.

The Pentagon and White House said this week the United States was reappraising its military operations in the Gulf and was considering whether to expand protection to cover US-owned ships flying flags of convenience.

Senator Sam Nunn suggested that the Gulf be carved into segments, with one Western nation responsible for ensuring freedom of navigation in each.

Military sources in the Gulf said they doubted such a scheme would be politically acceptable to Western governments or workable. Only the United States, with about 28 warships in the region, could cope with such a task, they said.

But US, British, Dutch, Belgian and Italian forces have implemented a similar policy to hunt for mines. A joint Dutch-Belgian fleet found five mines this week near the spot where the Samuel B. Roberts was holed.

## World population grew by 90 million people last year

## Crowding could spur environmental catastrophe

By Lee Siegel

LOS ANGELES, (AP): Earth faces environmental catastrophe unless developing nations stem rapid overpopulation, a population control group said Sunday, but a critic dismissed the report as invalid speculation by barmy doomsmongers.

"World population, now 5.1 billion, grew by an unprecedented 90 million people last year. Over the next 10 years, the world will add another billion people. Ninety-two per cent of that growth is taking place in the poorer nations of the developing world," said the new report of the population institute.

**Debts**  
"Unless we wake up to the serious damage population pressures are doing to this planet, we will see a 21st century that could offer unprecedented catastrophic consequences," Werner Fornos, the group's president, said before he released the report Sunday, the start of World Population Awareness Week.

Fornos warned of thinning of earth's protective ozone shield, heating of the atmosphere by air pollutants, waste and pollution of water supplies, loss of soils and forests, extinction of species and expansion of deserts.

He said the United States and

other industrialised nations should consider forgiving debts of developing nations which establish policies to halt environmental destruction and to expand educational and employment opportunities for women. Birth rates are lower where women have greater economic and social opportunities, Fornos said.

The report drew sharp criticism from University of Maryland economist Julian Simon, who said that while "more people mean more problems, the history of humankind is a history of surmounting problems. New solutions leave us better off than if the original problems had never arisen. If we had only 1 million people on earth, we'd still be chasing rabbits and eating berries and roots."

"The population institute and other doomsmongers have been wrong on every single prediction they have made for the past two decades," and people like Fornos "have no sense of humour" and "can manufacture scares faster than you can write stories about them," said Simon, a business administration professor.

"Contrary to their prophecies, every important human trend has improved," he said during a telephone interview. "Live is longer, health is better, all resources

have become more available rather than less available and in the United States our environment has become cleaner."

Kingsley Davis, a demographer at Stanford University and the University of Southern California, defended the report, saying, "there's no question in my mind that virtually every environmental problem we have is made worse by the fact we have over 5 billion people on earth."

Fornos labeled Simon's viewpoint "baloney", and "willfully ignorant elitist" because "when you recognise the next billion people will come in just nine years, then you understand that competition for food and resources of this planet will become more intense."

Industrial nations have stable populations and can afford environmental protection, but in developing countries, "where populations are doubling every 30-35 years, there is rarely sufficient economic vitality to feed and clothe the people, much less implement far-sighted environmental strategies," Fornos said.

**Cancers**  
He said depletion of earth's ozone layer will increase skin cancers and perhaps damage crops and seafoods, while atmospheric boiling will raise sea levels and cause crop failures. Deforestation is likely to create more

deserts, spur droughts, trigger extinctions and reduce oxygen production, while industrial pollution and human wastes will taint more water supplies, he added.

To stem the environmental damage, Fornos also recommended:

• Researchers should accelerate efforts to develop alternatives to wood, coal and oil as energy sources, because the use of such fuels spurs deforestation, expansion of deserts and carbon dioxide pollution that warms the atmosphere.

• Industrial nations could provide more financial aid to developing countries that try to limit the flow of migrants into polluted "mega-cities" which often lack adequate sewage and waste disposal systems.

• Nations that ratified the treaty to reduce emissions of chlorofluorocarbons — the refrigerant gases blamed for depletion of earth's ozone layer — should reconvene to move up their 1994 deadline for cutting such emissions in half.

Fornos said 400 educational events are planned around the United States during World Population Awareness Week, which he said was proclaimed by 40 governors and endorsed by 58 US senators and 170 house members.

which begins next January.

Inside the EEC, Spain has united itself with Portugal and Greece to demand increased development funds for the poorer southern European countries in advance of the 1992 economic unification of the 13-nation market. His efforts have been aimed at countering what is expected to be a boon for the richer northern countries once the true common market is created. The EEC has agreed to some of the southern-tier nations' demands.

On Jan 15, after 18 months of tough negotiations, the United States accepted Spanish demands to remove 72 F-16 fighter-bombers from Torrejon Air Base outside Madrid in exchange for a new eight-year bilateral defence pact. The current five-year accord expires May 14.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

1707 — British forces are defeated at Almanza, Spain.  
1809 — Britain concludes Treaty of Friendship with Sikhs at Amritsar in India.

1859 — Austria suppresses revolt in Cracow, Poland.  
1898 — United States declares war on Spain.

1905 — Transvaal is granted constitution which Louis Botha regards as inadequate.

1915 — Anglo-French forces land at Gallipoli in Turkey.  
1920 — Supreme Allied Command assigns mandates of Mesopotamia and Palestine to Britain, and of Syria and Lebanon to France. Poland launches offensive against Soviets in the Ukraine.

1945 — Delegates of 45 nations meet in San Francisco, California, to organise United Nations.  
1957 — US Sixth Fleet sails for eastern Mediterranean as King Hussein proclaims martial law in Jordan and seals frontiers.

1971 — Soviet space ship lands safely after docking with an orbiting space laboratory.  
1978 — South Africa says it has accepted a Western plan aimed at preparing South-West Africa for independence under black majority rule.

1986 — Rioting breaks out across Soweto, South Africa's largest black township, following police block of youths protesting arrest of 15 students.  
1987 — Sri Lanka military carries out two-pronged offensive against Tamil rebels.



MICHAEL DUKAKIS

## Dukakis on way to nomination

By Michael Posner

WASHINGTON, (Reuters): Michael Dukakis, a cool technocrat unknown nationally a year ago, now seems clearly on the road to clinching the Democratic presidential nomination with his victory in the New York state primary.

The Massachusetts governor, the son of Greek immigrants, parlayed a well-financed campaign, a reputation as a skilled administrator and top notch staff to his biggest victory yet.

Cool, rarely smiling, sometimes arrogant, the 54-year-old candidate talks tough, is smart and calculating and has a firm grasp of domestic issues but appears sometimes unsteady on foreign policy.

Lacking charisma, the most colourful thing about him is his nickname — "the Duke."

Generally cautious in nature, he made few mistakes in the New York, often refusing to take a stand on controversial issues like the assassination of the Palestinian commando leader Khalil Wazir.

His standing with New York's large pro-Israel Jewish population apparently was not seriously damaged when he refused to rule out creation of a Palestinian state.

**Misstated**  
In another foreign policy flap, he also misstated Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's policy against ever negotiating with the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Aides to black civil rights leader Jesse Jackson called Dukakis "the incredible shrinking candidate" because of his cautious approach.

But he avoided the crossfire

between New York's vocal Jewish mayor Ed Koch and Jackson, Dukakis' main rival. Koch hacked Tennessee Senator Albert Gore who was a distant third.

Koch said Jews would be "crazy" to vote for Jackson and also accused him of lying. In turn, Jackson accused Koch of hysteria.

In beating Jackson, Dukakis may have shown that the country is ready for a competent technocrat after eight years of Ronald Reagan, a popular president with little interest in detail or administration.

Should Dukakis win the Democratic nomination at the party convention in July, he would face Vice-President George Bush, a man who jokingly says he has kept his own charisma in check for the past 7 1/2 years.

For Dukakis, the man ex-Republican President Richard Nixon calls a "word processor," the road to national recognition has been slow but sure.

One critic said his speaking style is "as witty and compelling as the instruction manual for a computer."

He has campaigned on his claims of creating a "Massachusetts miracle" — taking credit for attracting new high-technology industries to Massachusetts to replace rundown textile and shoe factories.

He says his brand of leadership could reinvigorate the US economy and help reduce record federal budget and trade deficits, although he provides few specifics.

But critics say Massachusetts' recovery resulted from billions of dollars in defence-contract money pumped into the state by Reagan's military buildup.



## Is amniocentesis a technological aid to female foeticide?

The misuse of genetic testing ostensibly under the garb of finding birth defects in the unborn is a flourishing business in parts of northern India where a daughter's birth-day may be considered a near calamity.

By Abha Pandya

BOMBAY: Usha Parekh had four daughters — and she was desperate for a son.

Desperate, but afraid. Afraid that her husband might abandon her, afraid of the constant insults of her mother-in-law, afraid of the taunts of other relatives.

"When I became pregnant again, I came near the breaking point. I had to have a son this time," says Mrs Parekh, 27. She is married to a businessman in Bombay.

"I dreamed of the little boy playing in the mud, of rocking him to sleep. I dreamed that my husband was laughing and tossing the baby in the air."

"He had stopped doing that when our third daughter was born. His indifference to my daughters was palpable — to me even more so."

One morning, while Parekh was riding the Bombay suburban train to visit her mother, a poster caught her eye. It advertised "amniocentesis," a genetic technique used to determine the condition and sex of an unborn child.

She rushed with her mother to the clinic to get the test. To her delight, her baby was a boy. She felt all her troubles had come to an end.

But what if the foetus had been a girl? Would Parekh have gotten an abortion?

If she had, for some it would have been a relief. In the estimated 78,000 female foetuses aborted in India between 1978 and 1983. Thousands of these abortions were done for sex-discriminatory reasons.

This misuse of genetic testing, ostensibly under the garb

of testing for birth defects in the unborn, is now a flourishing business — mainly in northern India, where a daughter's birth may be considered a near calamity.

Recent protests in the media and by women's and civil rights groups against widespread use of amniocentesis for this purpose has called attention to what some see as a technological aid to female foeticide. It is still essentially an urban phenomenon confined primarily to the middle classes. But amniocentesis clinics are spreading in rural areas, indicating that this discrimination has widespread sociological roots.

"How else can we understand this phenomenon except in the context of sociocultural values that treat the birth of a daughter in the family as a great disaster?" asks Vihhuti Parel of the Women's Centre in Bombay, which has been in the forefront of a campaign to ban sex-determination clinics.

Boys have long been favoured in most parts of India. The tradition of viewing the male as the provider for parents in their old age reinforces the preference for sons. Economic reasons for sons are especially strong in predominantly rural areas, but also exist elsewhere.

Sons are perceived as being economic assets to the family. They contribute productive labour and capture some wealth in the form of a dowry when they get married. Sons are also perceived as needed to carry the family lineage and to perform religious rituals on the death of parents.

Girls have long been neglected. Apart from the social and cultural dominance of men, women are discriminated

against in subtle ways. For instance, women and girls are poorly nourished in many Indian families.

Studies have also shown that girls and women tend to be neglected in receiving hospital treatment. One study in south India showed that the money spent in treating 19 firstborn girls was 38 per cent of the money spent on treating 18 firstborn boys. For girls born down the line, there was a virtual absence of medical treatment.

This discrimination clearly shows up in the statistics.

India is one of few countries in the world (some others being Pakistan and Iran) that show an adverse female-to-male ratio in the population. The 1981 census showed the ratio to be 1,000 males per 935 females. The proportional representation of women has been declining since 1901.

"It is in this context that the protests against this selective abortion of female foetuses has taken on added urgency," says Sonal Shukla, a woman's rights activist in Bombay. "It is very dangerous, because if a girl or woman is ill treated or neglected in a family — resulting in her malnutrition, ill health, or even death — it is at least seen and known in the neighborhood."

"But what about amniocentesis and selective female infanticide?"

"When a woman is just four months pregnant, she is taken to a doctor for a quick amniocentesis. This is followed by a quick abortion, if 'needed.' No one needs know. So there is no criticism — or can any action be taken against a crime. Womb-to-womb oppression becomes, tragically enough,



Sons are perceived as being economic assets to the family.

literally true."

Ms Patel says that women themselves are so mired in the existing value system that they often acquiesce in the practice. Besides, the women have few options to withstand the enormous social pressure brought on them to have sons.

"The problem is that most women know what it means to be an unwanted daughter," Patel says. "Most hardly have any knowledge about the harm the tests can do to their bodies, especially in late pregnancy — to say nothing about the degradation of themselves and their sex by such practices. It is really a social adaptation to a difficult situation rather than a matter of choice by the women themselves."

Women's civil rights groups are now demanding that the government ban the use of amniocentesis for prenatal sex determination and launch a campaign to publicise the fact that the sex of a child is deter-

mined by the father and not the mother.

They have also protested against treating this as a population control measure, as was suggested in some quarters. While the government has condemned the practice, it has done little to close clinics.

A middle-aged doctor to Bombay, who performed the tests in the past and has asked not to be identified, says she has stopped the practice now.

"A few years ago when this debate started in the press, I started thinking about the issue and finally realised that it was wrong to do sex-selective abortions. The practice cannot be defended in any way," she says.

"These tests and abortions should be banned legally, medically, and morally. Most doctors don't think seriously about the moral and ethical aspects of the issue — and in the process strengthen the ideas of discrimination in the society," The Christian Science Monitor

## Bonded by the beauty myth

Do men suffer sleepless nights about their hairdos? The size of their hips? The answer according to psychologist Rita Freedman in the book *Beauty Bound* is that we live in a society where men are judged by their actions and women by their looks. Without beauty they lack approval and self-esteem.

By Val Hennessy

WHY do women anguish so much about their looks? Why do they strive so desperately for physical perfection? Why are there no contests in which men parade in skimpy bikinis being judged on the basis of their shapely legs and dazzling smiles?

The answer, according to Rita Freedman in her punchy if somewhat rambling book *Beauty Bound*, is that we live in a society where men are judged by their actions and given power, while women are judged by their appearances and given the once-over.

The book is extremely thought-provoking. Every page makes you ponder. Every chapter makes you feel the urge to shout "Right on!", throw away your lipstick, stop shaving your legs, and burn your bra.

On second thoughts, you can burn yours if you like, but I'm too much of a coward.

Just consider the fact (which Freedman doesn't mention but which I will) that every time Margaret Thatcher faces the public she first spends hours with rollers, brushes, hair-sprays not to mention moisturisers, foundation, blusher, powder, eyeshadow, lipstick and so forth, while Neil Kinnock needs only to smooth down his thinning hair and slap on some aftershave.

Is it fair? Is it reasonable? What Freedman has to say is important. As a psychologist, she discovered that most women hesitate to admit just how greatly they value beauty and feel its loss.

Because good looks are crucial to success, beauty rituals comprise a major aspect of being female. Think of the amount of time and money women spend on looking good. Faces are toned, moisturised, massaged, peeled, lifted, and plastered with cosmetics. Teeth are capped, straightened, and occasionally pulled out to accentuate cheek bones.



Beauty is projected on girls from birth, says Freedman

Lashes are curled, dyed, faked, and painted with mascara. Eyelids are pencilled, shadowed, and shaved to wrinkle-free perfection. Breasts are lifted, reduced or enlarged. Stomachs, hips, thighs and bottoms are trimmed. Women diet. Women exercise.

And if all this isn't hell enough, the commitment to beauty many continue after death, with women planning their casket outfits and leaving special instructions for hairdressers. Freedman tells us that Madame de Pompadour's final act before death was to rouge her cheeks. After the funeral of Princess Grace, reporters (male) reassured us that she looked as beautiful in death as in life.

They said the same about Marilyn Monroe, whose make-up lady spent half a day on her poor dead face and lovingly fitted her favourite blonde wig. Freedman, harking back to Grimm's fairy tales, asks whether a sleeping princess, frozen in passive splendour, is the ultimate model of femininity. And it's a very good question.

And then there's the "rub-off effect." Or what we might call the Ralph Halpern phenomenon — the way in which

plain men use glamorous women to enhance their own attractiveness. A glamorous bimbo does more for a man's image than a brainy blue-stock. Freedman, explaining that such men accompanied by beautiful women are judged as successful, intelligent and sexy, notes: "A man gains the most social status not from his wife's economic or professional level, but from her degree of attractiveness and sexual desirability. The rub-off effect gives him the most points for having scored with a pretty mate."

Freedman is caustic, too, about the way beauty is projected on girls from birth. "Girls play at being pretty but boys play cars," observed one of her case studies, a five-year old American girl who already knew the cultural priorities and doubtless watched the child beauty contests so hugely popular in the USA. At these fiasco toddlers barely out of nappies (sometimes wearing false lashes and mini bikinis) are judged for the cuteness and charm.

Do men ever suffer sleepless nights about their hairdos? The size of their hips? Of course not.

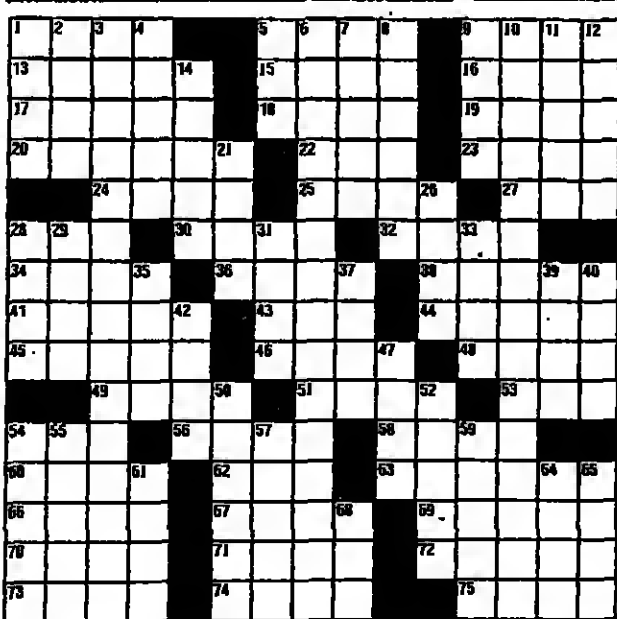
Yet women learn, almost from birth, that looks count in love and work. They suffer terribly in the pursuit of beauty. Without beauty, they lack make approval and self-esteem. Freedman ends by suggesting that when women become economically independent, so they will depend less on their looks as their chief asset.

She hopes that the time will come when women will be released from the bonds of the beauty myth, when we can look as ordinary as men and still be valued as normal lovable human-beings."

Right on! Mind you, I note from her dust jacket photograph that Freedman herself is not averse to mascara, blusher and plucked eyebrows...

*Beauty Bound* by Rita Freedman (Columbus Books, £6.95)

### TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Military assts.
  - French ecclesiastical figure
  - Knocks
  - Jumped
  - Watchar
  - Med. school course
  - Place for a wedding
  - Current Prefix
  - Novice
  - Area
  - Fort — Calif.
  - Mimic
  - Blood Prefix
  - Haar ya!
  - Keats' poem
  - Group for a DA
  - a boo
  - Way in or out
  - Playbill listing
  - Greek colonnade
  - Abelone lover
  - Spanish haro
  - Board members: Abbr.
  - Fence steps
  - Ross or Rigg
  - Incite
  - Singlas
  - Pack a pipe
  - Suburbanite's concern
  - Qty.
  - Winter mo.
  - Paris green spot
  - Scraps
  - Ape
  - Craggy hill
  - Vital statistics
  - Weather vane
  - Stravinsky
  - Sailboat
  - Vingilke
  - Night light
  - Wait on
- DOWN**
- Too bad!
  - Editor's note
  - By all means
  - Rush
  - Atmosphere: Prefix
  - One way or another
  - Actor Noah
  - Ate away
  - Pro —
  - Whatever comes along
  - Peelad
  - Pack away
  - Trounce
  - Small deer
  - Menageries
  - Made a hole in one
  - Indonesian isle
  - Miss Kett
  - Father of the Holy Roman Empire
  - One of the Turnars
  - Salling
  - Basic: Abbr.
  - Flex
  - Molst
  - Walkad on
  - Film on bronz
  - or copper
  - Clothe
  - Transfer, for short
  - Eleva's school
  - Aviator's affirmative
  - Legends
  - Gumbo
  - Lifted with effort
  - Erupt
  - TLC dispensers

### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

SPY ABBA PAINS  
THEE NEAL ATREE  
ROAM GALL STORE  
ENRAGE SOD ENDS  
PENNYPLOAFERS  
AMAN LETHAL  
BOAT SUSAN ECO  
THREEPENNYOPERA  
UNA RATIO EDEN  
SOMALI DQEA  
PENNYPINCHER  
SLAP TEA SAHARA  
LOSES ALMA ERLIN  
IDEAL TIER SECT  
PEARY HELM MAIS

### GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
EACH TRICK IN ITS TIME

North-South vulnerable. West deals.

**NORTH**  
♠ J 7 5  
♥ A 9 7 6  
♦ A K Q 9 5  
♣ K

**WEST**  
♠ K 10 9 8 6  
♥ Vold  
♦ 8 7 6 2  
♣ Q 8 4 3

**EAST**  
♠ 4 2  
♥ Q 8 5 4 3  
♦ J  
♣ 10 9 7 5 2

**SOUTH**  
♠ A Q 3  
♥ K J 10 2  
♦ 10 4 3  
♣ A J 6

The bidding:

West North East South  
Pass 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠  
Pass 3 ♠ Pass 4 ♠  
Pass 4 ♠ Pass 4 NT  
Pass 5 ♠ Pass 6 ♠  
Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Two of ♠

Certainly, taking tricks on defense is the key element in defeating any contract. However, when you win a trick can be critical, as this hand from the recent Bermuda Regional, held at the Southampton Princess, bears eloquent testimony.

North-South bid well to a good

slam that was placed in jeopardy only by the terrible trump break. However, Martin Chait of Gaithersburg, Md., who with his wife Elaine was one of the partnerships on the winning knockout team, sailed home with an assist from East.

Declarer won the opening lead in dummy, and had mixed feelings when he led the ace of hearts and West showed out. The trump break was unlucky, but at least he had cashed the high trump from the right hand. He reverted to the king of diamonds, and East fell from grace when he ruffed. The rest was easy.

Declarer rose with the ace on the spade return, crossed to dummy with the king of clubs and took the marked trump finesse. A club ruff provided the dummy entry for another trump finesse, and the king of trumps picked up the queen. Declarer was able to discard two spades on the long diamonds to land his slam, since he could reach the table with his remaining diamond.

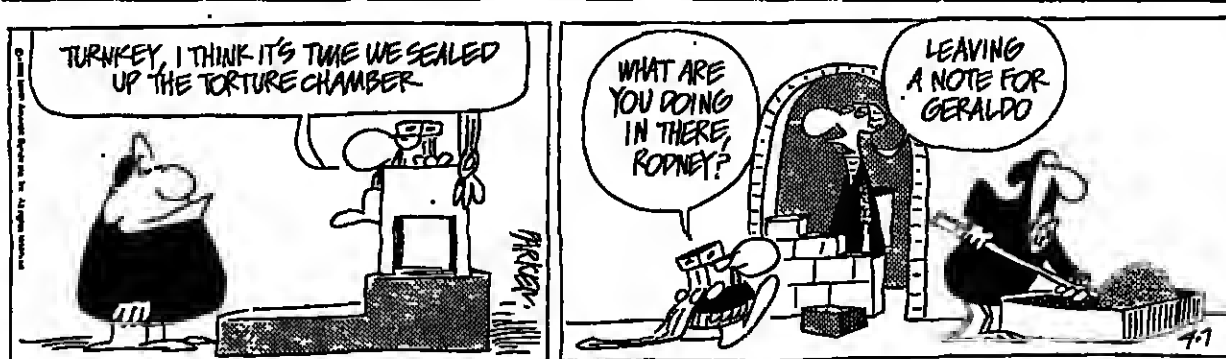
Note the difference if East refuses to ruff the second diamond, but waits for the third round. Declarer is an entry short to both pick up trumps and run diamonds, and the slam must go down.



"How long does it take to walk down to the dispensary and get him a sleeping pill?"

### THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



### YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You should be prepared to change direction. You are liable to be blamed for something that is not your fault. Make sure you get all the rest you need. Be realistic.



Taurus (April 19 - May 21)

There will be some small complications for you will know how to deal with them. You should not think you have nothing more to learn. Try a more gentle approach. Be lenient.



Gemini (May 21 - June 20)

Do not think you can use a new device without any practice. You will be able to do something that interests you very much. Keep your objectives clearly in mind. Be patient.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

Do not sweep something a little unpleasant under the carpet: face up to it. You will be able to give your full attention to what is really important. Avoid neglecting a malaise treat it with the seriousness it requires. Be resilient.



Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

Make sure you do not quarrel with a friend of yours. You will have the courage of your convictions. Do not try to do more than one thing at a time. Be hopeful.



Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

You will have problems with someone who tends to be rather secretive. You should not allow yourself to be invaded by doubts. Make sure you go to bed in time to have a good rest. Be frugal.



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

You should not leave your partner in any doubts about your intentions. Nor should you pretend to something that you know is not true. You have no time to waste nor energy to spare. Be prudent.



Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

You will tend to be a little more nervous than of late. You should not try to do things by force. Do not act on the spur of the moment. Be punctual.



Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

There is no harm in saying 'please' just a little more frequently. Give credit where credit is due and do not try to steal others' glory. Think hard before you make up your mind. Be more generous.



Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

You should give a friend your advice and support. You are liable to miss a good opportunity. Make sure you do not drive too fast and that you look out for what is behind you. Be tactful.



Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You will be better able to keep your emotions under control. You should avoid novelty for its own sake. However you should not turn your back on change altogether. Be sensible.



Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

You will tend to be mistaken about other people's intentions. Your children will give you something to be pleased about. You should avoid spending too much time upon a hobby. Be fair.



## MEDICINE

## The RHS factor

## New hope for skin disease sufferers

By Alex Molloy

IT is the answer to everyone's dreams — a new skin grown in the laboratory to keep people looking young forever.

It could also be the perfect answer to help burn and crash victims recover their former looks.

And, for people who have skin complaints, the future has never looked rosier.

There is also the chance that it could make the testing of cosmetics on animals totally unnecessary.

The director in charge of the remarkable research is Dr Richard Staughton, a consultant dermatologist at London's Westminster Hospital. He and his team have grown the skin, known as RHS (Reconstructed Human Skin) in test tubes ... and so far it has been just as good as the real thing.

Dr Staughton says: "For years doctors have been able to grow the epidermis — the top layer of human skin — but only recently have they managed the dermis — the lower layer too — the two layers that make up human skin."

"This means that RHS closely resembles natural human skin in its behaviour and consistency, so we can use it to simulate diseases, allowing experiments to be carried out in the laboratory as opposed to using real life sufferers as guinea pigs. There is also the fact that RHS could take the

**Skin grown in the laboratory could provide a vital breakthrough in the search for everlasting youth. For scientists now hope test tube tissue will help produce anti-ageing creams as well as restoring the looks of disease and burn victims.**

place of animals in the lab."

So far, START (Skin Treatment And Research Trust) has attracted a host of celebrity stars, including Twiggy and Anita Roddick, who owns the Body Shop stores.

Other star patrons of START include, make-up artist Barbara Daly who did the Princess of Wales' make-up on her wedding day and writer Dennis Potter, who wrote TV's The Singing Detective and who also suffers from the skin disease Psoriasis.

Dr Staughton adds: "Up until now the skin was only available in America and France. In France they are performing successful grafts, but in Britain it is used purely for research purposes."

"We very much want to carry out research into Psoriasis, which is a horrible disease. Very painful and unpleasant."

Psoriasis is a disorder of the outer skin. Its symptoms are thick red blotches with a scaly surface. The areas most commonly affected are the scalp,

back and arms.

Doctor Staughton adds: "More than two million people in Britain alone suffer from Psoriasis. And no effective treatment has yet been found, except messy lotions, creams or drugs that can damage the liver, bone marrow, or even seriously harm unborn foetuses."

"RHS has made it possible for us to take a sample of cells that cause Psoriasis and add them to skin, so enabling us to study the disease much more closely than we have been able to in the past."

And it is not only Psoriasis sufferers who will benefit from START. Many children who suffer from burns or disfiguring birthmarks will also reap the rewards.

Skin cancer has also come under the START microscope. Since 1983, the number of skin cancer sufferers in England has risen steadily.

Pale-skinned people who suddenly start sun-bathing on Mediterranean beaches are unable to cope with the



A researcher makes sure all test-tubes are sterile in the lab.

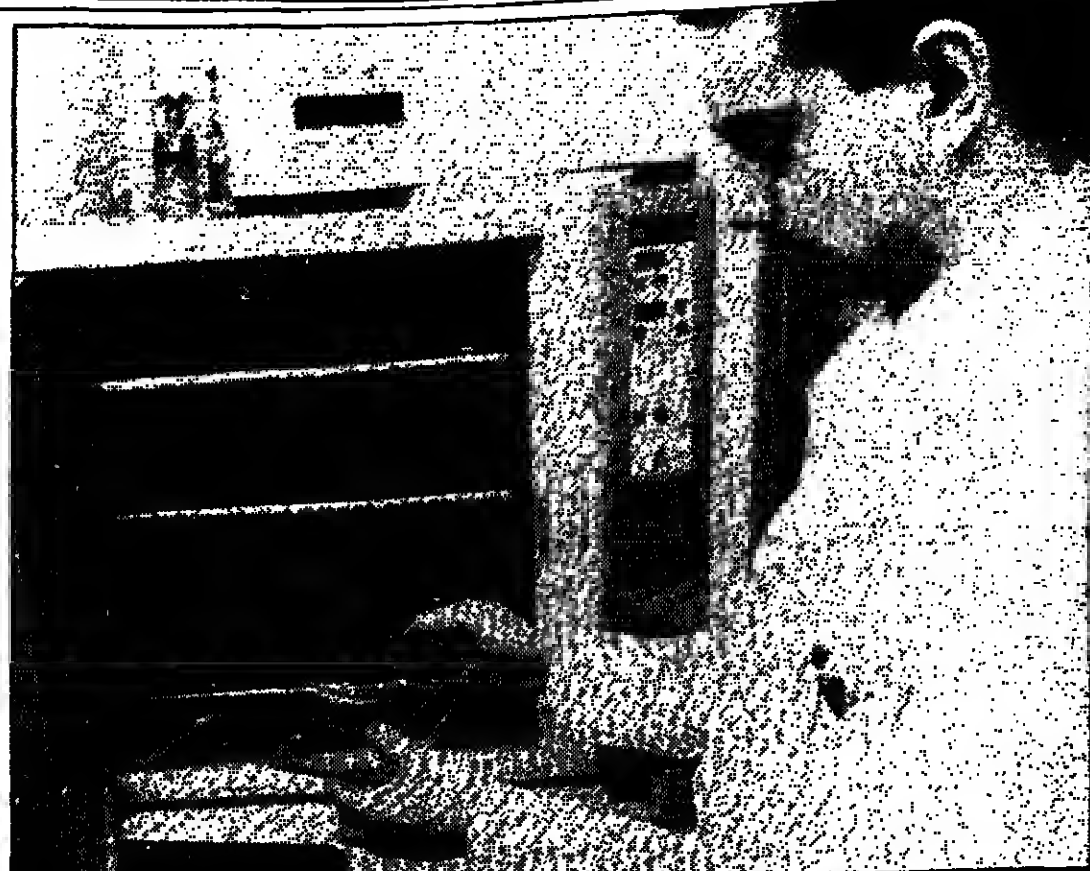
sun's ultra-violet rays.

START are now planning to grow cancer cells so that they can be studied in greater detail.

If they are successful they may find out why cancer develops and discover an effective treatment.

In fact RHS could have even wider uses. It could even be used in the war against time.

Dr Staughton explains: "Like all kinds of research, this could take years and years, all



RHS (Reconstructed Human Skin) is carefully removed from a fridge at the START lab.

you can do is take things very slowly, one day at a time.

"But we are all incredibly optimistic about what the future can bring. If nothing else it could help to identify which creams slow down the ageing process. But at present our main worry is money."

"Research is a very lengthy and expensive business and we desperately need money."

"We have to raise £1 million to carry on with research."

At the moment Dr Staughton's team work night and day on RHS. If their hopes for the

technique are fulfilled, it could revolutionise the medical world.

START have now launched a huge campaign to help fund RHS and are looking for support from large cosmetic companies.

They have certainly already got it from the stars.

Anita Roddick says: "For years the cosmetics industry has said it wants an alternative to animal testing. Well here it is."

Or maybe they just want to stay young-looking...



Actress and model Twiggy is a patron of START and helped launch the charity in March 1988.

## Good news on tooth decay

People who put off going to the dentist will be surprised when they eventually sit in a dental chair. New technologies, perhaps only a decade down the road, promise routine pain-free dentistry without drills.

By Larry Doyle

CHICAGO, (UPI): Tooth decay is dead.

"No, don't say that," says Dr James Carlos, associate director of the oral disease prevention programme at the National Institute of Dental Health. "We don't want people to get that idea."

Tooth decay will soon be a thing of the past, then.

"Well," Carlos pauses, choosing his message carefully. "Maybe we should just say the news about tooth decay is good."

Materials and techniques unavailable three years ago have made it possible for dentists not only to patch teeth, but to perfect them. Dentures are losing their grip to permanent implants, and great inroads are being made against periodontal disease, the rotting of the gum and bone that hold teeth in place.

The future holds some odd surprises.

New technologies, perhaps only a decade down the road, promise routine pain-free dentistry without drills and novocaine shots. Tooth decay will be simply rubbed away and plugged with permanent white putty. Computers and lasers will allow dentists to programme and carve patients' whole new mouths in a matter of minutes.

People who put off going to the dentist will be surprised when they eventually sit in a dental chair. In addition to the

gloves and masks most dentists now routinely wear to prevent possible aids virus transmission, they will encounter a series of high-technology gizmos to boggle the imagination. Light sticks. Lasers. Computer simulators. Anti-cavity solution. Electronic pain boxes.

"This is not a fantasy," says Dr Arlen Lackey. "A lot of this stuff is already around and in limited use, and I think you'll find it to be quite common by the mid-1990s."

Lackey, a California dentist and consultant who lectures on changes in the industry, says "people keep thinking about these things as futuristic, but they're here already."

Among the advances Lackey says will become standard office equipment and supplies within the next seven years:

**Pain-free anti-cavity solution** Experiments are underway using mild citric and other acid solutions to dissolve tooth decay. At present, these solutions do not work quickly or specifically enough to be used in standard practice, but, Lackey says, "they're going to get better and better, and I predict most minor caries (cavities) work will involve having a dentist rub this on the decay, wiping it away."

**Seamless, undetectable fillings** Instead of filling holes in teeth with unsightly metal fillings, dentists will begin routinely using special photosensitive white plastic material. The con-



The tenth century Arab physician called Albuqasis was a tooth-drawing perfectionist who believed in taking great pains of one kind, while inflicting those of another. "Lay the patient's head on your lap and scrape the teeth and molars," he suggested.

sistency of bread dough, this material can be molded to precisely to the shape of the crown, seamlessly blending in with the rest of the teeth. This material is already used in some areas, primarily on front teeth, but glue used to fasten the filling need to be stronger and longer lasting before they will be good overall substitutes for metal fillings, Lackey says.

**Electronic pain control** Many people who are terrified of the dentist are as afraid of the needle used to deliver novocaine as they are of the drill. Experts estimate that 35 million Americans have such needle phobia. But a new technique, known alternatively as muscular and neurological stimulation (Mans) and transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation (Tens), allows patients to shock themselves out of their senses.

Electrical pads are placed on the patients' gums and a low-grade current is applied. The current basically loads up nerve circuits in the mouth, making it impossible for pain messages to make it to the brain. The amount of current is controlled by the patient with a hand-held box.

**Computer-lasered teeth** In the perfect match of high-tech wizardry, dentists soon will be able to use lasers to take holographic pictures of people's mouths. These images will be fed into computers, which will design new teeth and "cut" them out of a block of ceramic or plastic using another laser. The result: a new crown, tooth, or set of dentures in about a hour.

"This sounds wild, but it's only about three to five years away," Lackey says.

## Rubber limbs get amputees back on their feet

COLOMBO: Near the scenic Beira Lake in Colombo, amputees hobble along on poles — or are carried — to a simple workshop at the Transit Home for the disabled. Within two weeks they walk out on two legs.

20-year-old Loganath is now a trained technician at the workshop. He walked smoothly towards me, revealing hardly a trace of the fact that he had lost both his legs in a train accident when he was 13 years old. He cycles 8 km to work each day on artificial limbs made in his own workshop.

"Now I can do anything a normal person does," he says. "The limbs got me out of the black despair I'd fallen into. Quite happy to exhibit his artificial limbs, he has special trousers stitched with long slits down the inner legs to show them off. "It's much easier to show the legs to the many people who want to see them," he said, unbuttoning the slits.

His legs are simple, inexpensive, locally-made aluminium and rubber artificial limbs of a kind who are revolutionising the lives of amputees in Sri Lanka.

They are "Jaipur limbs", so called because they were developed in Jaipur, India by an Indian orthopaedic surgeon, Dr Pramod Karan Sethi and a Jaipur woodworker, Ram Chandrasharma. Dr Sethi based the design on work dating back to 1957 by a Sri Lankan orthopaedic surgeon, Dr G. M. Muller, on limbs suitable for work in rice paddies.

The genius of the limbs are their relevance to poor urban and rural workers in Third World countries. With the flexible Jaipur limb anyone can squat, or sit cross-legged. The farmer can work in the mud of his field, and the city-dweller can walk over uneven ground or ride a bicycle.

Moreover the limb is easily made from strips of rubber, a foot-shaped mould and aluminium tubes. The knee has a special joint for bending and squatting. The footpiece is constructed in four parts using layers of vulcanised rubber, with wooden strengthening being added to the ankle area.

According to Dr Sethi, "a conventional limb based on Western designs has a foot piece which requires it to be hidden and protected by a shoe, raising the cost. And the Western designs do not permit the

**Sri Lankan workshops are making a low-cost, artificial limb designed in India — and have already helped over 1,000 disabled Sri Lankans walk again. The limb, the rubber 'Jaipur foot', is an excellent example of the South-South transfer of a technology developed to meet the exact needs of local people.**

By Mallika Wanigasundara



The Jaipur foot is enabling thousands to walk again.

amputee to squat or sit cross-legged on the floor". But the Jaipur limb's rubber footpiece looks like a foot, is sturdy and waterproof, and can be worn without a shoe.

Fitting the new limbs, correcting defects and making alterations usually takes about two weeks. Amputees stay in hostel wards attached to the workshops during the time and are then taught to walk again.

Many former patients like Loganathan find employment at the workshops where they were fitted with their new limbs. Lal Silva, 32 years old, now works as a technician at the Transit Home. He lost his leg while on jungle duty during army service. "I still find it difficult to believe that I can walk again," he says. Lal travels 50 miles by train every day to

work. It amuses him that on those early-morning, crowded trains, only a friend who knows he is disabled will offer him a seat if he is standing.

The limb is enabling ordinary people all over the country to pick up the threads of their normal lives again. A 24-year-old amputee, Mahinda Fernando, who is a trained electrician, has now set up his own workshop after being fitted with a Jaipur foot. K. D. Somawathie, a school teacher, has returned to her classroom after losing both her legs in a terrorist bomb explosion.

**Cheap** Though cheap compared to Western artificial limbs, the Jaipur limbs are still fairly dear to Southern standards — each costing around Rs. 1000 (\$77). The technology was introduced

to Sri Lanka and popularised by the Friend-in-Need Society — which has arranged appropriate funding. The construction of the workshops and operating costs comes primarily from abroad via a variety of donors, including the Norwegian government aid agency (NORAD), the Norwegian Save the Children Fund (Redd Barna), the Canadian High Commission, and individual charitable organisations.

"But for the limb itself," says Mrs Swarna Ferdinand who runs the programme for the Friend-in-Need Society, "we seek an individual donor, a heart that beats in compassion for a fellow human being."

Perhaps the most touching case was that of five-year-old Khema Upulawanna Indriwarie who had been born with a freak short leg, says Mrs Ferdinand. "It was heartbreaking for us to tell the distraught mother and child that we could only give limbs to amputees," she said. "But miracles happen. That day Dominique Gerard of Operation Handicap arrived in Sri Lanka. Together we were able to bring the light back into Khema's eyes". Mr Gerard arranged for a 14-year-old student in the USA, Anjali Senanayake, to donate the limb.

Many Sri Lankans have also taken to offering artificial limbs in memory of their loved ones.

"In memory of Nilruk Perera" read an advertisement in a local newspaper. "It is one year today since you left your parents, family and friends. You left on your motorbike and never returned. Today, to your fragrant memory, 18-year-old Kapila Gamage of Matara will walk with two Jaipur limbs. By this merit may you attain Nibbana." Notices like this have begun to appear in Sri Lankan newspapers with increasing frequency over the past two years.

The Friend-in-Need Society has now established workshops fitting the Jaipur foot in Kandy, Galle and Jaffna. The setting-up of the project in Jaffna in the Tamil north, in the midst of the continuing turmoil between Sinhalese and Tamils, is seen as one of the society's most significant achievements.

"We do not make distinction between people on account of race or religion. An amputee is an amputee to us, and could even be a murderer."

— Panos Features

## FAMILY DOCTOR

By Dr Allan Bruckheim

## FAST WALKING CAN PROVIDE AEROBIC BENEFITS

QUESTION: Is fast walking any good as an exercise for middle age?

ANSWER: Over the past few years, there has been a great deal of debate in the medical community over the aerobic benefits of walking vs. a good hard run. Certainly walkers have fewer injuries. But the question has always been can they achieve the all-important training effect?

A recent study out of Massachusetts seems to indicate they can. Under controlled conditions, 343 subjects, both men and women between the ages of 30 to 69, were asked to walk as fast as possible. The result was 91 per cent of all the women and 83 per cent of the men older than 50 easily reached a training heart rate.

A training heart rate (THR) is defined as 70 per cent of a person's maximum heart rate, which can be figured either by subtracting your age from 220 or by taking a treadmill test. In this case, each of the people who were part of the study began by running in place on a treadmill until they reached the point of exhaustion, during which time their heartbeats and ability to use oxygen were monitored. This record then was compared

to data recorded during a 30-minute walk.

The benefits of aerobic exercise depend heavily on intensity, or the ability to use the oxygen we take in while moving fast enough to maintain 70 per cent of our maximum heart rate. For women and for men older than 50, this was easy to achieve when walking at speeds just under 3.4 mph. Younger men could only achieve a THR by walking a good deal faster.

If you add it all up, it means good news for the middle-aged person who wants to be just a bit healthier through exercise. A good brisk walk, that is performed long enough and often enough, may be just your ticket.

QUESTION: How do you treat a spider bite?

ANSWER: With great respect and diligent care! The treatment for a spider bite depends on what type of spider did the biting. In the United States, only two spiders have potentially dangerous bites: the black widow spider and the brown recluse spider.

Within a few hours after a black widow spider bite, the victim develops severe chest or abdominal pain and may have laboured breathing, headache, swollen face, fever,

chills, profuse sweating and salivation, or shock. Ice packs should be put over the side of the bite, and the site may be injected with an anaesthetic and cortico-steroids. An antivenin is available to counter the toxin of various spiders in the black widow family.

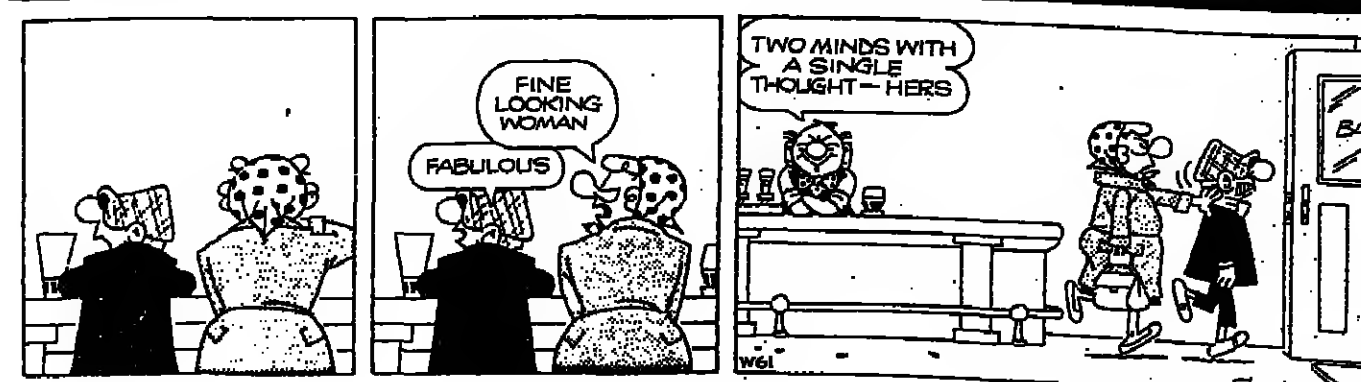
There is no antivenin for the brown recluse, and symptoms of a bite will be treated as they arise. Over the few days to weeks after a bite, a red raised spot or blister will develop at the site and an ulcer may form. This sore may last for months. Other symptoms may include weakness, nausea, hives and some blood and kidney problems.

OOPS! Well, a lot of you caught me. The quotation "Nothing to fear but fear itself" attributed to Winston Churchill in this column was really a part of Franklin D. Roosevelt's inaugural address in 1933. Your forgiving corrections were most kind and ranged from "Stick to medicine, you are no historian!" to the wonderfully charitable excuse created for me by one reader who speculated that I was really "too young to remember." Bless you!

1988 TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES, INC.

## ANDY CAPP

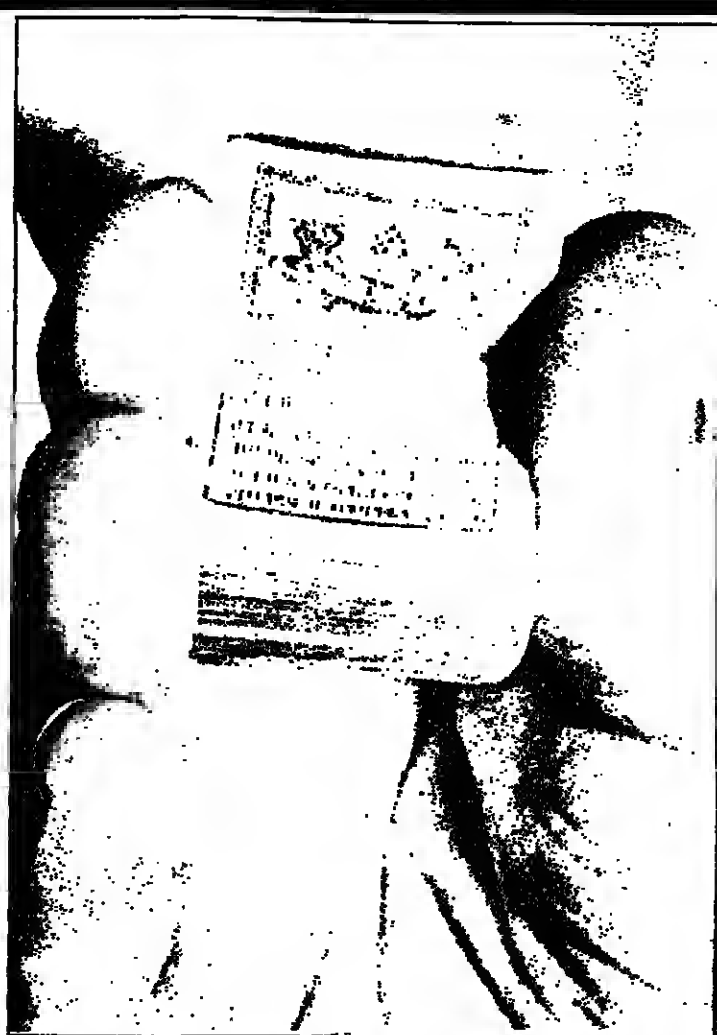
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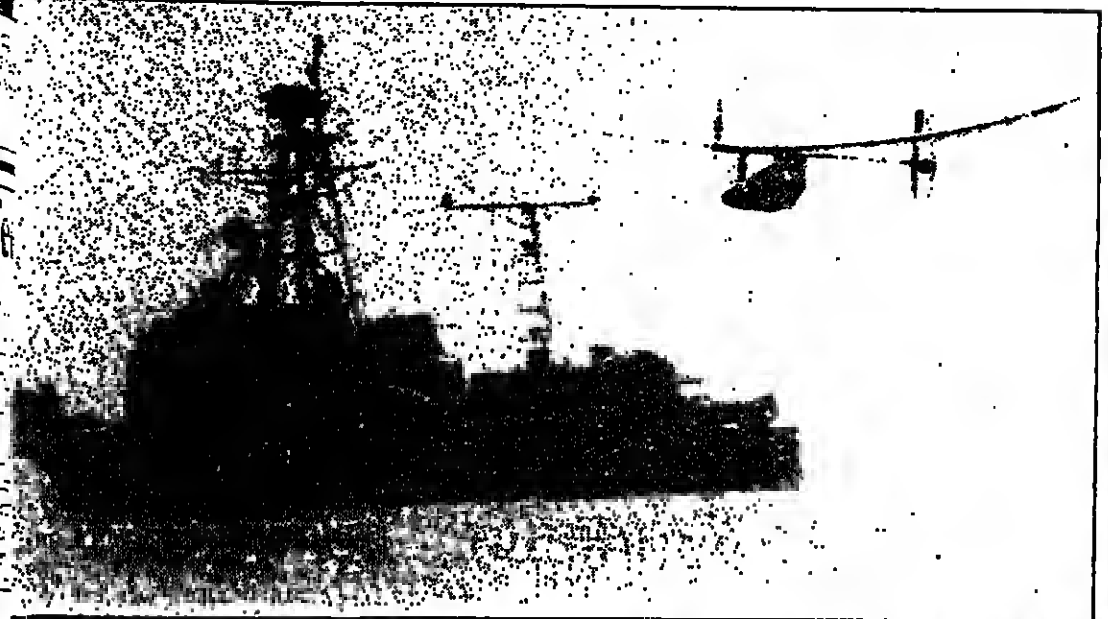
ANTI-NUCLEAR activists march through central Tokyo today in a campaign marking the second anniversary of the Soviet nuclear power plant accident at Chernobyl. About 20,000 people took part in the rally organised by 150 anti-nuclear groups, in which Austrian Dr Peter Walsh (right) and Swede Pat Doj (second right) joined the appeal. (Reuters wirephoto)



DIWAN CHAND BANSAL holds what is claimed to be the world's smallest book in Hindi script between his fingers in New Delhi. The book, published in 1933 by a Bombay company, is less than one inch long and a half inch wide and contains the entire contents of the Hindu epic, the Bhagvat Gita including engravings within 160 pages. (Reuters wirephoto)



DEMOCRATIC presidential candidates Jesse Jackson and Michael Dukakis (left) grasp hands at the start of their debate in Munhall, Pennsylvania on Saturday. Both men are preparing for the Pennsylvania primary tomorrow. (Reuters wirephoto)



THE human-powered Daedalus 88 flies near a Greek Navy patrol boat minutes before it landed on the coast of Santorini on Saturday. Greek pilot Kanellos Anellopoulos (above right) stands smiling after he landed on the island. Kanellopoulos pedalled the Daedalus 88 from the island of Crete to Santorini over a distance of 119 km (74 miles) in four hours and five minutes. (Reuters wirephoto)



A POTENTIAL bidder inspects photographs of Marilyn Monroe by Bert Stern which are part of the late American artist Andy Warhol's collection being auctioned at Sotheby's. (Reuters wirephoto)



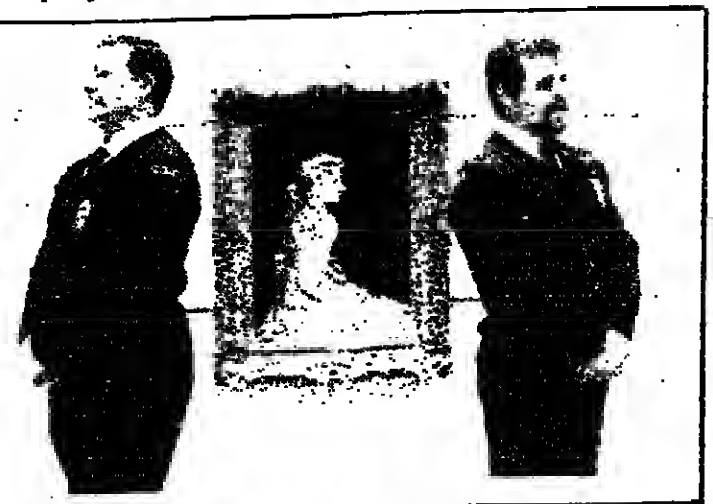
ONE of the posters of the play 'wash-day' by Wolfgang Borchert Theatre which shows part of the Coca Cola trademark and a Nazi swastika. The posters and the programmes of the play were confiscated following the public prosecutor's order in West Germany. The company brought charges against the theatre for the misuse of the company's trademark. (Reuters wirephoto)



US seamen Georges Cal (left) from New York and Duane Chequette of Washington aboard the US guided-missile destroyer 'McCormick' watch for mines in the Gulf on Friday after the McCormick took part in the attack against Iranian oil platforms last week. (Reuters wirephoto)



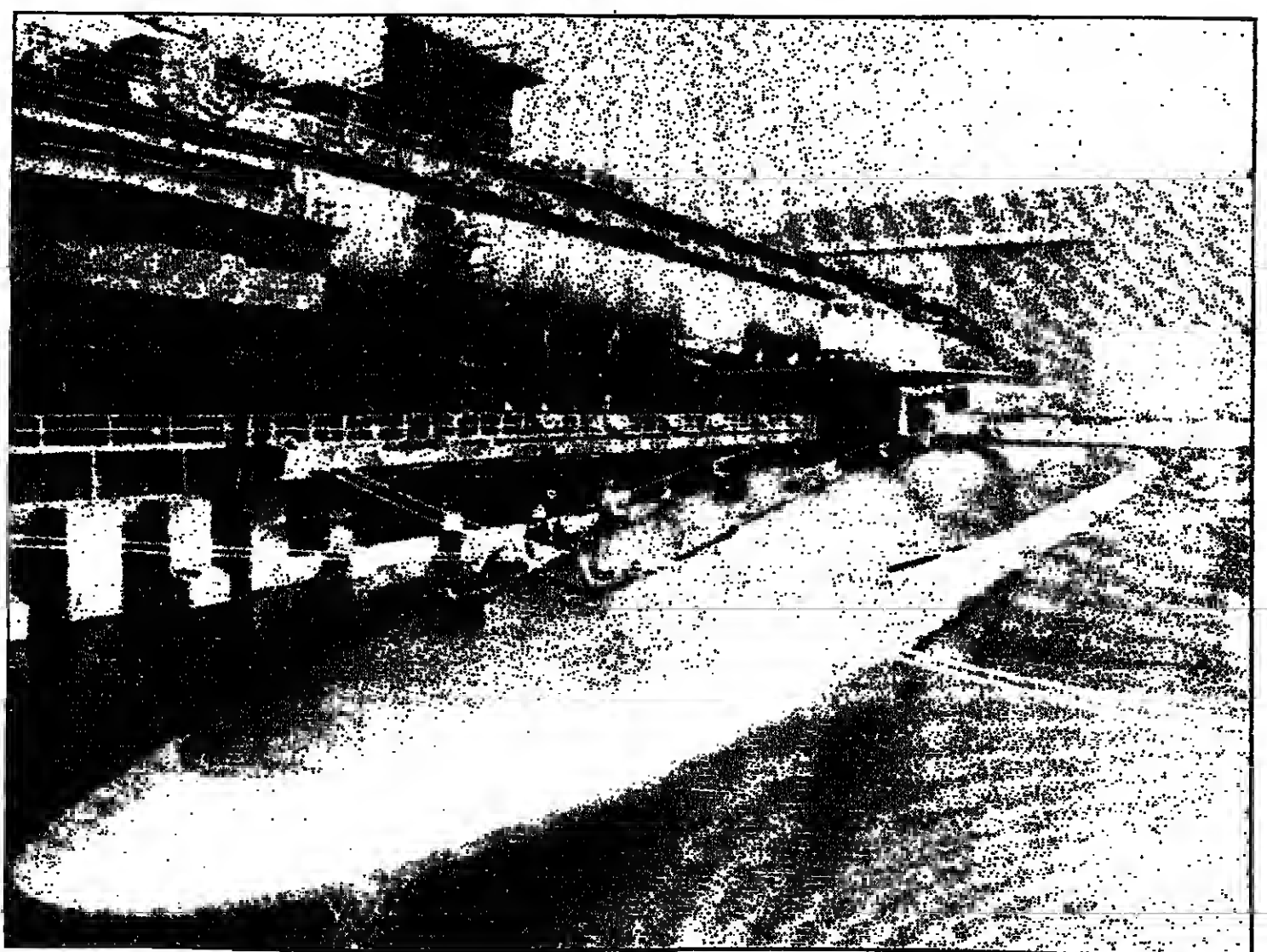
LEBANESE policemen inspect the damage caused by a massive car explosion in the northern city of Tripoli on Saturday. At least 60 people were killed and about 85 wounded in the blast. (Reuters wirephoto)



SECURITY guards keep watch over Vincent van Gogh's portrait of the inn keeper's daughter Adeline Ravoux in the showrooms of Christies in London on Saturday. The Van Gogh, painted two months before the artist committed suicide, has been on international tour to attract buyers and is expected to be sold in New York next month. (Reuters wirephoto)



LONDON pop singer Matt Belgrano looks over a bust of Napoleon by artist Antonio Canova in New York on Saturday. The bust is part of the late Andy Warhol's collection which is being auctioned. (Reuters wirephoto)



THE USS Pennsylvania, the nation's 10th Trident missile submarine, is launched on Saturday during ceremonies at the General Dynamic Shipyard in Groton, Connecticut. The USS West Virginia, also a Trident missile submarine, is under construction in the background. (Reuters wirephoto)



# BUSINESS & FINANCE

## Bid to tackle their external imbalances

# Arabs introduce debt management strategies

ARAB external indebtedness has been on the rise in the last few years with few of the highly indebted countries in the region rescheduling part of their debt.

However, for the group of Arab debtors as a whole, the burden of debt on their economies remains far less than that of major debtor nations in Latin America and Africa.

Moreover, several indebted Arab countries have introduced debt management strategies aimed at tackling their external imbalances and forestalling a deterioration in their debt burdens. However, the impact of debt management strategies being implemented is expected to bring forth slower economic

growth and modest development prospects, according to Gulf Economic and Financial Report.

The external debt situation differs from one Arab country to another. While certain Arab countries are sufficiently wealthy not to borrow in their sovereign capacity — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, UAE, Qatar and Bahrain — preferring instead to allow their corporate entities to arrange their own financing, others have low to medium debt profile and can still borrow in the international markets at reasonable rates e.g. Oman, Jordan, Libya, Algeria and Tunisia. Egypt, Syria and Yemen Arab Republic have made fewer approaches to the international

syndicated market and concentrated instead on public channels to secure their funding needs.

Five Arab countries (Mauritania, Morocco, Somalia, Egypt and Sudan) are already subject to official creditors' rescheduling agreement and three countries (Morocco, Sudan and Iraq) have rescheduled their commercial bank debt.

### Crisis

The world's debt crisis intensified in the past five years despite the fact that the industrialised countries have been on an upswing during that period. Total developing countries external debt is estimated by the World Bank to have reached \$1.190

billion at the end of 1987, up from \$1.120 billion for the year before and is projected to reach \$1.245 billion in 1988 — mostly due to valuation adjustments of the non-dollar debt. Net lending flows (new loans minus principal repayments) at \$26 billion were also slightly higher in 1987 than in 1986, but were barely 40 per cent of the average level of net flows to developing countries between 1983 and 1987.

Export credit has been on the decline in the last two years and the World Bank estimates net negative transfers (the excess of debt service over new loans) to have dropped slightly in 1987, but still amounted to \$29 billion. The ratio of Arab debt to total

debt of all developing countries ranged between 7.8 per cent and 8.6 per cent over the past five years. As such the Arab debt figure constitute only a small percentage of total world debt and is less than the external debt of either Mexico (\$105 billion) or Brazil (\$114 billion).

### Funds

A good part of Arab debt remains self contained in the region. Arab international banks, governments of Arab donor countries as well as Arab national and regional development funds and institutions have been playing an active role in financing the external requirements of the various Arab

countries.

During the 1978-86 period, Arab countries have received more Euro-lending from Arab banks than any other region, with a gross total estimated to have reached \$20 billion.

In 1986, the Arab banks accounted for around 41 per cent of total syndicated Arab lending, compared to 46 per cent in 1985 and 25 per cent in 1980.

Government to government loans have been far larger in volume than those offered by the development quite significant for most of the indebted Arab countries.

To be continued

## US orders for durable goods unchanged

WASHINGTON, April 24, (Reuters). Orders received by factories for durable goods were unchanged in March from February, when they rose a slight 0.1 per cent, the government said on Friday.

The March performance in orders for the most expensive manufactured items was below the 1.5 per cent increase forecast by most analysts. Wall Street analysts said the figure may help stock prices, which have been volatile this week.

Most economists were expecting a rise of 0.5 to 2.5 per cent in durable goods orders for March. The unchanged number should help ease concern that interest rates will be increased to stem an economy that some fear is expanding too fast, sucking in too many imports, traders said.

### Stocks

The bond market rose slightly on the news and traders said that should translate into help for stocks.

Orders in February were revised up from 1.1 per cent decline reported previously due to stronger demand for primary metals, the Commerce Department said. In January orders fell 1.2 per cent.

The flatness in durable goods orders in March contrasted with other recent economic indicators which have shown a surprisingly strong economy and raised concern that inflation could flare up.

Consumer prices showed the biggest increase in more than a year with an increase of 0.5 per cent in March, the government said earlier this week.

## Sterling continues to power ahead in active trading

DATA this week on balance continues to suggest that the economy is growing faster than the market originally anticipated. This has added to the overall dollar nervousness with buoyant growth fuelling inflationary fears. This would appear to be confirmed by the release this week of consumer prices rising by 0.5 per cent, the highest average rate of rise over the last twelve months.

The Federal Reserve has reacted to the potential inflationary threat and nervous dollar market by tightening its rates with Fed funds moving higher. Following the previous week's slide in the dollar the central authorities by their reaffirmation to a commitment of stable exchange rates have succeeded over the last week in keeping the dollar within its new lower level trading ranges with current rates Y124, DM1.67 and £1.89.

Industrial capacity — US factories, mines and utilities operated at 82.3 per cent of capacity in March. This is the second consecutive monthly drop following the fall of 82.4 per cent in February and the revised 82.6 per cent increase in January. The March decline was mainly due to lower utilisation rates in the manufacturing and utilities sector. The market was expecting a slightly lower figure of 82.2 per cent.

Consumer prices rose 0.5 per cent in March following a 0.2 per cent increase in February. This was the largest increase since January 1987 and was mainly as a consequence of higher costs for clothes, food and transport. This was well above the market forecast of 0.3 per cent.

Housing starts rose 1.9 per cent in March to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1,543,000 units. This was the second consecutive monthly increase following a revised February gain of 9.6 per cent to 1,514,000 units. The market was expecting a higher figure of 1,550,000 units.

Durable goods orders were a seasonally adjusted \$114.3 billion almost unchanged from the month before. February's index was revised upwards 0.1 per cent compared with the original estimate of down 1.8 per cent.

### Performance

The main data releases next week surround the performance of the real economy. Expectations are for further evidence of reasonably buoyant activity. Leading indicators are likely to be 1 per cent up compared with 0.9 per cent a month ago and real GNP expected to come in over 2 per cent. This will only add to present sentiment that higher interest rates will be required in an effort to stem increased inflation. This could see a possible stiffening in Federal Reserve rates and bond yields edging slightly higher over the week.

In addition the current growth momentum does not bode well for a further decline in the trade deficit with import demand continuing to be buoyant. This could put some downward pressure on the dollar over the next week. On balance however, the markets are likely to be dissuaded from significantly testing the dollar's lower trading limits, aware of significant central authority intervention. Hence trading ranges for this week are expected to continue narrowly Y122.5-126.0 and DM1.64-1.69.

### Active

Sterling continued to power ahead in active trading this week. The surge in bank lending announced this week added to the market view that the economy remains extremely buoyant. Any previous concerns that interest rates may be

inward to cap sterling's rise were eradicated by these numbers with the markets interpretation that a decline now in interest rates is highly unlikely. Sterling finished the week at above DM3.16 and around £1.89.

Consumer spending rose 0.6 per cent in the first quarter in an estimated £44.1 billion. This was less than the market forecast of a 1 per cent increase and was 6.2 per cent higher than to the same period the previous year. The stronger figure was due to continued growth in retail sales but was partially offset by lower energy spending because of the mild weather.

Retail sales fell a provisional 0.3 per cent in March. This follows a revised 0.3 per cent increase in February. On a non-adjusted value basis, sales were 11 per cent higher than a year earlier. The market was expecting a higher rise of 1.0 per cent.

Money supply M3 — up a seasonally adjusted 0.8 per cent as expected in March, after dropping 0.1 per cent in February, M3 — up to 3.1 per cent in March after rising a revised 0.3 per cent in February. This measure of broad money was lower than the 4.0 per cent rise forecast. Annual unadjusted M3 growth was 20.7 per cent in the latest 12 month period. M4 — up 2.2 per cent in March following a rise of 0.4 per cent in February. This was slightly lower than the 2.7 per cent rise forecast.

Bank lending rose by an estimated underlying £4.7 billion seasonally adjusted in March against an average £3.9 billion over the previous six months. The market was expecting £3.25 billion.

PSBR was in surplus of £3.6 billion for the financial year 1987/88 which was over half a billion more than official forecasts. This was mainly due to

higher tax revenues and lower public spending.

The market continues to await a clear directive on the government's exchange rate policy. The current policy impasse only makes sterling extremely volatile. The movement continues to be upwards at present with interest rate differentials still very much in sterling's favour. This is likely to continue for most of the forthcoming week.

However, the trade data announced next Friday could just turn the markets. We have long argued that for the medium term the outlook for sterling is uncertain. The fundamentals suggest that sterling may soon reach its natural peak. The deteriorating trade performance and potentially inflationary concerns could soon undermine the market's confidence. Another similar trade figure for March of £1.3 billion, as occurred in February, could see sterling move lower. Therefore, any short term surge is liable to be as quickly dissipated. Trading ranges have to be correspondingly

wide to incorporate the potential volatility in the market — £/ \$1.84-1.94, DM12-13.19.

Money supply numbers in Germany continue to move strongly ahead at an annualised 8 per cent. This is well above the 3-6 per cent 1988 target objective of the central bank. Although this is liable to provide concern for the traditionally prudent Bundesbank in itself it is unlikely to provoke an interest rate rise.

Broad money supply numbers (M2 plus CD) continue in double figures, however, as yet inflation remains subdued with consumer prices increasing at less than one per cent in the year whilst wholesale prices have in fact fallen by an equal amount over the same period.

The economy is undoubtedly reaping the rewards of the expansionary fiscal and monetary measures effected last year and for the interim with dollar nervousness persisting a significant reversal to the present neutral monetary stance is ruled out. Provided by NBK weekly market review.

## World Business Summary

### Investors advised to go into downstream ventures

LAGOS, April 24, (Opecna): A deputy managing director of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), Michael Olorunfemi, has advised Nigerian industrialists to invest in downstream petrochemical product fabrication, an area the NNPC does not intend to go into. Delivering a paper at a seminar here, Olorunfemi said that with the commissioning of the phase one plants in Kaduna and Ekpan, three primary raw materials — linear alkyl benzene, carbon black and polypropylene — were now available for processing by downstream industrialists. He said that the second phase of the petrochemical projects was a grassroots petrochemical complex, primarily intended to satisfy the growing demand of local industries for plastic products needed by the packaging, textiles, automobile, electrical equipment and building materials industries.

Joint venture partners, he said, would be needed to finance the project, whose first phase would cost about \$875 million between 1988 and 1992. Olorunfemi said joint-venture partnerships would be needed for setting up plants for making polypropylene, polystyrene, polyester chips, polyvinyl chloride, ethylene glycol and isopropyl alcohol. Proposals for joint-venture participation in the production of polyester resins and ethylene glycol, he said, were likely to include modalities for the offshore marketing of the products.

NNPC, he announced, has embarked on \$925 million programme over the next five years to supply natural gas to industries.

The programme is designed to commercialise gas and reduce the flaring of associated gas.

### Call to cut corporate tax to enhance investment climate

KUALA LUMPUR, April 24, (Kuna): A Malaysian tax consultant has called on the government to reduce its corporate tax to 35 per cent from the current 40 per cent by the year of assessment 1989 to enhance its investment climate. Dr Arjuman Sabramaniam, director of a leading tax services firm here said although this reduction would translate into a revenue loss of Malaysian dollar 172.03 million based on the 1986 figures or \$118.15 million based on the 1987 figures for the government, it should be taken as necessary investments for further economic growth. "We must invest enough to enhance the potential growth," he said in his paper on Malaysia's investment outlook at the current investment symposium here. Dr Sabramaniam said the lowering of the corporate tax will serve as an incentive and also compensate foreign investments for the relatively higher wage cost in Malaysia compared with Thailand. "The government's loss in revenue due to this reduction would in a long run be compensated by the extra business activities generated, an increase in employment and also less tax evasion," he added. Finance ministry's secretary-general Zain Azran, who also presented a paper in the symposium said the Malaysian economy should aim for an annual growth rate of around eight per cent in the next decade to cut unemployment and enhance incomes. He said this means that a growth pattern sharply focussed on economic diversification should be the basis for long-term macro-economic planning.

## Reagan predicts Congress will not override trade veto

WASHINGTON, April 24, (AP): President Reagan predicted today that Congress will hold his intended veto of a sweeping world trade bill expected to be sent to his desk in the coming week.

Senate Democratic leader Robert C. Byrd, however, urged the President to sign the bill because "it is no time to dillydally" on the trade issue.

The bill would strengthen laws against foreign unfair trade practices, expand protection for workers who lose their jobs because of imports, give the President authority to negotiate a new global trade agreement and punish the Toshiba Corp. and a Norwegian company for selling sensitive technology to the Soviets.

Reagan and Byrd exchanged views in the President's weekly radio address and the weekly Democratic response to the presidential talk.

### Legislation

"Some in Congress have put together legislation that would damage our ability to compete with our trading partners," the President said. "Everyone talks about wanting a level playing field, but what Congress would be doing is putting American industries and workers on the field with one hand tied behind their backs."

"I have made it very clear to Congress that I will veto this bill and I am confident that my veto will be sustained," he said.

"Then I will work vigorously to secure responsible trade leg-

islation and urge the congressional leadership to schedule prompt action on the new bill," Reagan said.

Byrd told his radio audience, "we are at the 11th hour when it comes to dealing with our nation's trade deficit. This is no time to dillydally (delay)."

The majority leader took aim at Reagan's opposition to a provision in the bill that would require businesses with more than 100 employees to give 60 days' notice before closing a plant or instituting mass layoffs. Reagan says this provision, supported by organised labour, would damage the competitive position of American business and cause the loss of American jobs.

Byrd, however, called the

provision "simple justice, simple decency."

"Right now, many workers get only a week or two or a day or two of warning that their jobs are about to disappear," he said. "About a third of all American workers get no notice at all."

"If the President stands up for America, he will sign the trade bill," Byrd. "If the President vetoes the trade bill he will be sending another message: the big boys with the golden parachutes count more than the little guy."

It takes a two-thirds majority in both houses of the US Congress to pass a bill into law over a veto by the President. The House of Representatives passed the measure 312-107 on Thursday. A vote in the Senate is expected in mid-week.

## US inflation rate accelerates

WASHINGTON, April 24, (Reuters): Prices paid by American consumers advanced broadly last month, pushing the country's most widely used inflation gauge to its highest increase in more than a year, the US government said on Wednesday.

The increase, combined with a sharp wholesale price gain last month, could signal the start of a few months of higher inflation and raises the possibility that the Federal Reserve Board will tighten credit to control it, economists said.

The consumer price index (CPI) rose a seasonally adjusted 0.5 per cent in March, more than double February's 0.2 per cent rise, the Labour Department said.

It was the largest monthly gain since January 1987 and would represent an annual inflation rate of 6.4 per cent if it were repeated for the next 11 months.

So far this year, the index has risen at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 4.2 per cent, which is still less than the fairly modest 4.4 per cent increase for all of 1987.

Higher prices for clothing, especially the spring line of

women's fashions, food and transportation along with a halt in the decline of oil prices were largely to blame for the overall March increase, the department said.

Excluding the volatile components of food and energy, consumer prices rose an even stronger 0.6 per cent in March as shelter, medical and entertainment costs also rose, it said.

### Declined

Because energy prices, which had declined steadily for several months, were unchanged in March and are likely to move up over the next few months, economists said consumer prices will move higher as well.

Allen Sinai, chief economist at the Boston Co. said prices appear to be rising in person to robust consumer demand, which is outpacing production — a classic economic scenario.

"I think that what we have is a wave of accelerating inflation," Sinai said.

Bank of America economist Frank McCormick said the increase appears to be the result of two temporary factors: higher import costs, which reflect a decline in the value of the dollar,

and steady to higher oil prices.

"It's one bad month, but the longer-run picture does not look that bad," McCormick said.

"We've had good news on the inflation front for the last six months because we've had declining oil prices," he said. "But oil prices in March have shifted to a neutral position."

McCormick said he expects a repeat of last year's trend in which inflation rose fairly sharply in the first half of the year before slowing significantly in the second half.

Although the country's relatively low 5.6 per cent unemployment rate has prompted concern that wage increases would raise inflation, economists said they have seen no signs so far of what they call "wage inflation."

"Commodity prices are what are leading this month's increase," said Donald Ratajczak, director of economic forecasting at Georgia State University.

Despite the March increase, most economists expect this year's inflation rate to be about the same or only slightly higher than last year's increase.

## Moscow ranks highest importer of Saudi wheat

ABU DHABI, April 24, (Opecna): The Soviet Union purchased 172,000 tons of wheat from Saudi Arabia during the first quarter of this year, placing the country at the top of the kingdom's wheat importers.

This represents the largest single share of the country's wheat exports of 576,000 tons.

According to the Saudi Ministry of Agriculture and Water, demand for Saudi wheat early this year remained high. It added that all quantities, except a load of 67,000 tons for the Soviet Union, had already been shipped to their destinations.

The ministry noted that Indonesia ranked the second highest importer taking 62,000 tons during the period, followed by China 52,210 tons.

Other importers of over 50,000 tons included Jordan and West Germany, it said.

The ministry added that during the period Saudi Arabia also exported 300 tons of fresh vegetable to the United Kingdom, France, Belgium and fellow member states in the Gulf Cooperation Council.

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## Meeting viewed with some scepticism

## Opec unlikely to change its quotas

NEW YORK, April 24. (Reuters). An unprecedented gathering of Opec and non-Opec oil producers this week is likely to result in a token cut in output but analysts are sceptical about how much oil will actually be taken off the global market.

"The talks are aimed at stringing the market along but at some point fundamentals will take hold and (oil) futures prices will reflect oversupply," Sarah Emerson, an analyst with Energy Security Analysis Inc. said on Friday.

Rising output from competing countries such as Mexico, Egypt and Oman forced the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) to set a formal meeting between its market monitoring committee and several non-Opec producers in Vienna on Tuesday and Wednesday.

The 13 Opec oil ministers will hold a consultative meeting on Thursday.

Quotas  
Opec is unlikely to change its quotas, but the meeting could help hold up oil prices at about \$18.45 a barrel until Opec holds its biannual meeting in June, analysts say.

The special Opec committee comprises the oil ministers of Saudi Arabia, Venezuela,

Nigeria, Indonesia and Algeria. Non-Opec producers Egypt, Mexico, Oman, Angola, China, Malaysia and Colombia were invited to meet with Opec's committee to discuss ways of stabilising oil prices.

Current Opec production has climbed above 18 million barrels per day, according to some industry estimates. The group, excluding Iraq, has a self-imposed ceiling of 15.06 million barrels per day (bpd).

"The Opec/non-Opec meeting must give an indication that there will be some sort of production cut in order to keep oil prices up," said Dillard Spriggs, economist with Petroleum Analysis Ltd.

"But I don't think the statement they make (after the meeting) will have much meat on it," Spriggs added.

## Output

Newly appointed Indonesian Oil Minister Ginandjar Kartasasmita said on Thursday that if Opec members — who are currently overproducing — sock to assigned quotas there will be a reduction of 300,000 bpd.

If non-Opec producers return to their earlier output level as they promised they would, there will be a 400,000 bpd reduction from them," Ginandjar said.

The bigger question, suggested some analysts, is whether Opec will tinker with existing quotas assigned to members.

"If Opec and non-Opec producers made a hard and fast agreement to cut total output by one million bpd and stick to it, oil prices could take off and reach \$20 or higher," Emerson said, although she said this was unlikely.

Later this year, when demand for petroleum historically rises in response to the summer driving season, demand for Opec oil is widely expected to rise to nearly 19 million bpd.

## Most economists now fear inflation

## Dealers see quiet but nervous time in markets

LONDON, April 24. (Reuters). Dealers in currencies and stocks expect a quiet — but nervous — time ahead.

Six months after last October's global stock market crash led some to worry about a worldwide economic recession, most dealers and economists now fear inflation.

They were unsettled 10 days ago by news that the United States ran a bigger than expected trade deficit in February, fearing it signalled a consumer spending spree on imports that could eventually rekindle inflation.

And they'll be keeping a careful eye on this week's meetings in Vienna, between Opec and oil producing nations which are not members of the organisation.

But many are convinced that central banks are poised to intervene if currency rates start bouncing — no dealer likes to be at the other end of a telephone when a central banker is buying or selling currencies.

Quiet  
That should keep trading fairly quiet.

"The fundamentals do not support a stronger dollar and the central banks won't allow a lower dollar," said Frank Pusateri, assistant vice president at First National Bank of Boston.

The big change since October is that the fundamental factor worrying markets is the risk of inflation, not recession, argues Christopher Smallwood, economics editor of the Sunday

Times in London. Recession worries — concerns confirmed by the great depression of the 1930s — sent share prices plunging half a year after the Wall Street crash in 1929.

"But in 1988, there are other reasons to expect the stock market slide to continue," Smallwood wrote.

Higher  
"The odds are that the dollar will drop further as America continues to record huge trade deficits, and that this will trigger recurrent downward lurches on Wall Street as fears of higher inflation, and thus higher interest rates, intensify," he argued.

US bond dealers already think higher interest rates are on the way — prices of bonds have been

under pressure. The lower the price of a bond, the higher the yield it pays to holders, since they have been able to buy at a discount paper that pays a fixed interest rate.

"The majority of people are betting on higher yields," said Charles Schaefer, of Irving Securities Corp. in New York.

He said a report, due on Tuesday, on US economic growth in the first quarter of 1988 could heighten fears that an American boom could lead to more inflation — too much money chasing too few goods.

Impact  
Oil price rises have also worried dealers recently, as Brent crude oil from the North Sea continued to trade well above \$17 a barrel for most of

last week. Many believe that a worldwide glut of oil would offset the impact of any agreement the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries and other producers might reach in Vienna.

Dealers say oil prices could be volatile this week — and if they rise enough, that could boost gold, a traditional haven for investors worried about inflation, and depress the dollar.

But, in Kuwait and Bahrain today, the only markets open, the dollar edged up half a penny to trade around 1.6775 West German marks while holding steady at 124.75 yen, in a half day session on Saturday, Tokyo's 225-share Nikkei index rose 0.8 per cent, or 221.25 points, to 27,058.37.

## China wins \$20 million UAE contract

TELEVISION sets, washing machines, cameras and a host of other consumer goods made in the People's Republic of China will soon enter the UAE market to compete with similar products from Japan after a major contract the Chinese signed at the just concluded 12th Gulf International Fair '88 at Sharjah Expo Centre.

The Chinese have signed contracts worth \$20.3 million during the fair, a third of it for supply of consumer durables which has been a Japanese preserve. "With our attractive prices and quality products we are confident of winning our share of this competitive market," said Zeng, Xian Wu, leader of the 100-member Chinese delegation which returned home yesterday, a week after the fair ended. The delegation comprising four provinces from the northwest region of China was the biggest yet from that country to attend a consumer goods fair in the UAE.

Besides household electrical appliances the \$20.3 million order the Chinese bagged include textiles, edible oils, Tinned foodstuffs and cereals, handmade carpets and industrial tools. The Chinese pavilion at the Expo Centre fair displayed over 700 different products from Shaanxi, Gansu, Qinghai and the Muslim autonomous province in Ningxia.

Zeng said the contracts signed by his delegation was possibly the single largest booking made by any Chinese team taking part in a trade fair in the GCC states. China's northwest region's participation in the 12th Gulf International Fair '88 is part of the country's careful trade policy of promoting separately the products from its disparate regions.

Last year the Jilin province from northeast China made its debut in the Arab market by taking part in Expo '87 where it signed orders worth \$13 million. The success of this well thought-out policy is best reflected in the rapid growth of China's exports to the UAE.

## EEC, Ankara to discuss trade ties

## Greek-Turkish reconciliation to be tested

BRUSSELS, April 24. (Reuters). The huddling reconciliation between feuding allies Greece and Turkey will be tested tomorrow when the European Economic Community (EEC) and Turkey discuss trade and economic relations.

Greece is threatening to prevent its 11 EEC partners from adopting a formal position for the EEC-Turkey Association Council in Luxembourg unless it includes references to Cyprus and to Ankara's human rights record.

## Session

But diplomats said they hoped Athens would agree that those issues could be covered in informal talks over dinner after the council meeting with Ali Bozcu, Turkey's minister of state responsible for relations with the community, the talks are the first since Turkey applied to join the community a year ago.

"We hope a sufficient amount of the spirit of Davos will shine through," one diplomat said, referring to the Swiss town where the Greek and Turkish prime ministers first agreed to improve relations last January.

If not, West Germany as current EEC president, will be forced to speak in its own name at the council instead of on behalf of the community. Britain did the same at the previous session in 1986, which was the first since the return of democratic government to Turkey following a military coup in 1980.

The meeting is being held during the regular two-day gathering of EEC foreign ministers, which will also consider the community's strained trade relations with Japan and hear a plea from developing nations for a tougher line against South Africa.

First, however, the ministers from Turkey and all of the EEC states except neutral Ireland will

meet at Nato headquarters in Brussels tomorrow morning to be briefed by US Secretary of State George Shultz on his talks with Soviet leaders in Moscow.

The EEC and Turkey signed their association agreement in 1963. But efforts to improve ties were abruptly halted by the 1980 military coup in Turkey in and have often fallen foul of Greek objections.

Despite the recent warming of relations between the two, Athens is still blocking a 600 million European currency unit (\$750 million) EEC financial aid package to Ankara.

Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias restated the tough line during a visit to Luxembourg on Friday, saying any improvement in EEC-Turkish ties depended on progress in the withdrawal of Turkish troops from Cyprus. Turkey invaded Cyprus in 1974 and now regards

the northern half as a separate state.

"Personally, I would be rather pessimistic about progress in Greek-Turkish relations," Papoulias said.

Other EEC states, though keen to develop ties with Turkey, are less enthusiastic about the prospect of Turkish membership.

The EEC is still digesting the entry two years ago of Spain and Portugal, two states considerably poorer than the community average, and has little enthusiasm for absorbing 51 million Turks whose per capita income is even lower.

Diplomats said the membership application, at present under study by the EEC's executive commission, will serve only as a backdrop to tomorrow's talks. The main issue will be Turkey's slow implementation of existing agreements to dismantle tariffs.

## Soviet economy was stagnant in '87: study

WASHINGTON, April 24. (UPI). A new intelligence report shows the Soviet economy was stagnant in 1987 and there is little evidence of progress on the reforms of Mikhail Gorbachev, senator William Proxmire said today.

Proxmire, realising a report to the joint economic committee by the Central Intelligence Agency and Defence Intelligence Agency, said the economic statistics, however, do not mean "that the reform programme is necessarily doomed or that Gorbachev will be ousted."

The Wisconsin Democrat said Moscow's economic showing "was as impressive in 1986 as it was disappointing in 1987, and the economy seems to be doing better so far this year. It is still too soon to pass judgement on the reforms or on Gorbachev's leadership."

The report estimated that the Soviet GNP in 1987 grew just 0.5 per cent. It said industrial production was up 1.5 per cent, a

slowdown from 1986, and that agricultural production was off 3.1 per cent. Per capita consumption rose just 0.7 per cent, said the report.

Among the reasons cited for the poor economic performance in 1987 were harsh winter weather, backsliding on worker discipline, shortcomings in the construction industry, confusion over the reforms at the enterprise level, and a decline in imports of Western machinery and equipment.

## Strategy

Thereport said that because of the Soviet Union's economic difficulties, "the short-term outlook for Gorbachev's economic programme is not good." It projected an annual Gross National Product growth of 2 per cent or less in the last three years of the current five-year plan, although it could fluctuate from weather and other external factors.

Under those circumstances, said the analysts who wrote the report to the committee's

national security economics subcommittee that Proxmire heads, if the Soviet leadership continues its strategy of making a large investment in modernisation and provides some increase in consumer goods to motivate workers, it will have to tap resources now allocated to defence, other domestic sectors or resources from abroad.

Gorbachev's programme, said the report, "ran into trouble in 1987. Familiar problems with poor weather and transportation bottlenecks were compounded by the disruptions caused by the introduction of economic reforms."

However, it said, major defence programmes consuming 15 per cent to 17 per cent of the economy "appear to have continued on track." The analysts noted that Gorbachev demanded that the military use its resources more efficiently and institute cost-cutting measures.

"The real loser in 1987 appeared to be the consumer who — now three years into Gorbachev's economic programme — has seen almost no increase in his standard of living," the report said.

## Increase

The analysts predicted that if the Soviet economy continues to perform poorly in the next few years, "tensions within society and the leadership will increase."

"Bureaucrats will become increasingly frustrated by loss of privileges and status and by demands that they show greater initiative. Military leaders are likely to become more and more uneasy if benefits from the industrial modernisation fail to materialise."

Soviet citizens will need to see some improvement in living standards if the regime is to achieve necessary gains in worker productivity and avoid widespread discontent," it said.

## Bank loans and credits to Africa dry up

NAIROBI, April 24. (Reuters). Foreign banks have curbed loans to Africa despite efforts by international agencies like the World Bank to generate more aid to the continent.

And, say the Abidjan-based African Development Bank (ADB) and the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), based in Addis Ababa, rescheduling debt dates on African debt is not helping.

"In fact, on the one hand major Western banks have begun to limit their exposure on loans to Africa, while the various debt rescheduling exercises on the other hand tend merely to postpone the problem and increase the debt burden over the longer term," the two said in a recent joint economic review.

The review welcomed efforts by agencies including the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank to mobilise increased funds for Africa.

But sums received in 1987 continued to fall short of expectations raised by a UN-sponsored,

1986-90 programme for recovery adopted by African heads of state in July 1985.

A key factor in this development is the drying up of export credits and bank loans as the debt servicing problems of the region continue," the report said. African nations felt they needed a total of \$128 billion in new funds — 65 per cent to be raised from domestic resources — for the UN-sponsored economic programme.

The ADB-ECA report did not say how far behind expectations the flooding drive was.

The report said Africa's foreign debt totalled \$218 billion last year. Other continents owe more.

## Activity

But, it said, "... it is the size of debt obligations in relation to available resources that renders Africa's debt the most critical."

The debt was equal to 70 per cent of the value of Africa's annual economic activity as measured by its gross domestic product, and triple its export ear-

nings in 1987. Some 35.8 per cent of export income was needed just to service this.

Growing repayment bills were falling due at a time Africa's export earnings hit a slump in world commodity prices, were shrinking and capital inflows were stagnating in real terms.

"Further, as countries find it increasingly difficult to meet outstanding commitments, the deterioration in their creditworthiness limits new borrowing and even the disbursement of agreed loans," the report said.

## Realistic

It called for more realistic repayment terms, based on the real capacity of African nations to settle obligations along with their development needs.

But it said that while many African nations have since 1986 agreed the need for economic reforms, "there is still serious debate regarding the role of the public sector, while the social impact of adjustment measures has become a very contentious issue."

## KUWAIT

BANK SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
NATIONAL BANK	0.860	0.860	0.860	0.860	265000	17
GULF BANK	0.325	0.325	0.325	0.325	130000	2
COMMERCIAL BK	0.240	0.240	0.240	0.240	60000	1
ABU BANK	0.275	---	---	---	---	---
B.K.N.E.	0.300	---	---	---	---	---
K.R.E.B.	0.370	0.370	0.370	0.370	150000	3
BURGAM BANK	0.236	---	---	---	---	---
K.F.HOUSE	0.405	0.405	0.405	0.405	50000	3
INVESTMENT SECTOR						
KUT INV. CO.	0.168	0.174	0.174	0.174	20000	1
K.F.T.C.I.C.	0.210	---	---	---	---	---
K.I.I.C.	0.152	---	---	---	---	---
COM.FACILITIES	0.380	---	---	---	---	---
AMLIAN INV.	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
I.F.A.	0.100	---	---	---	---	---
INV. PEARL KUT	0.102	0.102	0.102	0.102	40000	1
INSURANCE SECTOR						
KUT INSURANCE	0.690	---	---	---	---	---
GULF INSURANCE	0.370	---	---	---	---	---
AMLIAN INS. CO.	0.520	0.520	0.520	0.520	40000	2
AMLIAN INS. CO.	0.415	---	---	---	---	---
REAL ESTATE SECTOR						
KUT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.240	---	---	---	---	---
UNI R.E.S.T. CO.	0.118	---	---	---	---	---
NAT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.224	---	---	---	---	---
SALMIAN R.E.	0.075	---	---	---	---	---
KUT PROJECTS	0.086	---	---	---	---	---
KUT R.E.I.COM	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
INDUSTRY SECTOR						
NAT IND. CO.	0.510	---	---	---	---	---
KUT M.P. IND.	0.270	0.295	0.295	0.295	20000	2
KUT CEMENT CO.	0.238	---	---	---	---	---
REF. IND. CO.	0.385	---	---	---	---	---
N.A.N.T.CO.	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
GULF CABLE	0.970	0.990	0.990	0.980	45000	2
K.P.H.IND. CO.	0.116	---	---	---	---	---
CON. MARINE	0.350	---	---	---	---	---
K.S.W.REP.CO.	0.042	---	---	---	---	---
SERVICES SECTOR						
OVERLAND TRANS	0.081	---	---	---	---	---
K.N.C.CO.	0.190	---	---	---	---	---
KUT HOTELS CO.	0.174	---	---	---	---	---
P.WAREHOUSING	0.136	---	---	---	---	---
COM.MKT. CMX.	0.020	---	---	---	---	---
MOBILE TELE.	0.355	0.355	0.355	0.355	20000	2
KUT COMPUTER	0.190	---	---	---	---	---
FOOD SECTOR						
LIVESTOCK T.T.	0.230	---	---	---	---	---
UNIT FISHERIES	0.146	---	---	---	---	---
UNIT POULTRY	0.238	---	---	---	---	---
KUT FOODS	0.285	---	---	---	---	---
AGRI. FOOD PROD.	0.150	---	---	---	---	---
NON-KUT SECTOR						
BHN. INTER.BK	0.067	---	---	---	---	---
BHN.N.EAST.BK	0.045	---	---	---	---	---
UNITO. GULF BK	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
COAST INVEST.	0.079	0.078	0.078	0.078	160000	2
A.G. INV. CORP	0.039	---	---	---	---	---
FIRST GULF BK	0.620	---	---	---	---	---
B.K.I.G.	0.085	---	---	---	---	---

## KUWAIT STOCK EXCHANGE

COMPANIES LISTED ON THE PARALLEL MARKET	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
PEARL INV. CO.	0.098	---	---	---	---	---
GULF INV. CO.	0.041	---	---	---	---	---
GULF INTL INS.	0.009	---	---	---	---	---
ARAB INTL CO.	0.055	---	---	---	---	---
SHARJAH INS.	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
GULF UNION INS.	0.055	---	---	---	---	---
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR						
B-GULF PETROBRAS	0.016	---	---	---	---	---
C.R.K. WHITE OIL	0.024	---	---	---	---	---
D-AMIAN CEMENT	0.007	---	---	---	---	---
E-FUJAIH CEMENT	0.008	---	---	---	---	---
F-SHARJAH CEMENT	0.010	---	---	---	---	---
G-GULF CEMENT	0.015	---	---	---	---	---
H-UNION GULF	0.019	---	---	---	---	---

## Energy expert sees nothing dramatic in oil meeting

SINGAPORE, April 24. (Reuters). US Energy Secretary John Herrington said today a meeting of world oil producers called this month in Vienna is unlikely to achieve anything dramatic.

"The meeting is more of a psychological event and we will not see dramatic changes on the market," he told a meeting of foreign correspondents.

A joint meeting of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries and non-Opec producers is scheduled on April 26 to discuss measures to stabilise volatile oil prices.

On the future price trends, Herrington said: "There will be small ups and downs in oil prices, and if anything, I think there is a downward pressure on the oil market."

## Decision

Since Opec announced its decision to hold a meeting with non-Opec producers, spot crude prices worldwide have risen by more than one US dollar per barrel.

Oil industry sources said they expected the Vienna meeting would help to stabilise prices which had fallen steadily since

the start of this year. "Herrington said there was 'a lot of oil around.' Many countries must sell a certain volume of oil, such as Nigeria and also Iran and Iraq, to finance their eight-year oil war."

Herrington said the surplus situation was unlikely to change in the short-term.


"I can't think of an organisation that has been successful (in deciding prices) without the cooperation of the buyers," he said.

## China to cut oil exports

BEIJING, April 24. (Opecns): China is to reduce oil exports by five per cent this year in support of Opec's efforts to boost prices and restore market equilibrium, according to Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Tuobin Zheng.

In talks here with visiting Iranian Deputy Oil Minister for International Affairs Hussein Kazempour Ardabili, Tuobin pointed out that China had reduced its exports "several times before upon Opec's request."

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Indian Rupees	20.65
Pakistan Rupees	19.50
Sri Lankan Rupees	8.95
Philippine Peso	13.05
US dollars	37.40
Starting Point	517.4
Oil	USD, 13.50
Other	USD, 13.50
Offer	USD, 8.50
	USD, 6.00
	USD, 5.75/75
	GBP, 7.00/00
	AUD, 8.50/00
<b>Golden Investors</b>	



# ARAB TIMES Classifieds

## ACCOMMODATION

**FARWANIYA** preferably in east/west of Airport Road. Quiet boy seeks independent room, meals with a Goan. Tela, Agnelo, 4718960/944, 8.30 am - 2 pm. (AT3-41998-3)

## For Rent

**SALWA**, near Kuwait English School. Deluxe, CAC, brand new flat comprising 3 bedrooms, living and dining area, 2 bathrooms and a large fitted kitchen. Rent KD 300 including water and electricity. Tele. 5382763, 5391720. (AT4-41937-6)

## Available

**KUWAIT City**, near the Sheraton Hotel. A single room for a family, bachelors or girls. Tela, D'Souza, 2423751, 9 am - 1 pm. (AT1-41973-3)

**SALMIYA**, Block 16, Villa 12. Two furnished rooms with tele. facilities for bachelors or a couple, to share with a family. Rent KD 25 per person. Tela, Mr. Shaikh, 5612240, afternoon. (AT2-41986-3)

**SALMIYA**, Baghdad Street. One room with water, electricity, kitchen and tele. facilities for a couple or a small family. Tela, Monty, 4948190, 4949120 ext 2258, 9 am - 3 pm. 5639689 res. (AT2-41985-3)

## For Rent

Villas & 1/2 villas fully furnished and unfurnished, in Hadiya, Ahmadi, Fahaheel and Fintas.

Terkait Real Estate Est. Tel: 3913189, 3919884. From 7 to 11.30 pm during Ramadan.

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## Investments course

Once a week, 1-1/2 hour, on Mondays. Course for beginners on how to manage your personal investments, starting 25-04-88.

## Computer course

For beginners, 3 times weekly, 20 hours course starting in May. Wordstar 4/Lotus 123/Supercalc 4/Database III + Kuwait Cultural Center, Salwa Tel. No. 5624393

## REQUIRED URGENTLY Cleaning workers

Attractive salary Contact: 2405335

## FOR SALE

### Boats

**VULCAN**, 17 foot, racing dinghy, weighted keel. All gear including spinnaker etc. self righting, self bailing. Good condition. Ideal for local conditions. To highest offer. Tela, Dunford, 5314737. (AT2-41977-3)

### Computers

**AMSTRAD IBM** compatible 1512, 2 disc drives, high resolution colour monitor, in new condition. Tela, 3989111 ext. 6338 off, 7 am - 1 pm, 3986444 Res. after 4 pm. (AT3-41994-3)

### Cars

**PONTIAC** Bonneville Brougham, 5 litre, white with blue velour. KD1950. Tela, 5381431. (AT3-41991-3)

**CHEVROLET** Impala 1980, registered in 1981, inspection valid upto April 1989, well-maintained dark blue/light blue, fully automatic, in good condition. KD750. Tela, Mr. Shaikh, 2401197, 2410227, 9 am - 12 noon. (AT3-41990-3)

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## FOR RENT

Villas, 1/2 villas, flats, apartments, stores, etc., in all areas of Kuwait.

Al-Montaluk Real Estate Tel: 2418655 2426888

**RANGE** Rover, 1983 model, manual, first registered at the end of 1984 in good condition. Owner leaving Kuwait. KD1500, ono. Tela, 5386158. (AT1-41972-3)

**MITSUBISHI** Colt GLX 1985, 4 doors, manual (5 speed) white, AC, radio, cassette, hatchback, 51,000 kms. Inspection valid upto May 1989, well-maintained, KD850, ono. Tela, 3715354, after 1 pm. (AT1-41979-3)

## Furniture

**DOUBLE** bed for sale. Tela, 5336166, after 10 am. (AT3-42001-3)

## Electrical Appliances

**WESTINGHOUSE**, washing machine and dryer, white, one unit in excellent condition. Tela, Sami or Mrs Pramila, 2425995, 2413854. (AT1-41945-3)

## Miscellaneous

**BENED** Al Qar, 2 bedroom apartment available from mid-May, with or without contents. Tela, 2518465. (AT2-41989-3)

## FOR RENT

**Bened Al Qar** and in **Al Shaab** area, near the sea; deluxe flats in new building, 2 bedrooms, one saloon, 2 bathrooms and a kitchen. Rent KD 275 with water and electricity.

Saad Al Dabbous Real Estate Tel: 2418969/3, 2435571 9 am - 3 pm

## Computer Courses

For children and beginners Basic programming Word Processing Lotus - Database III Certificate from U.K.

Electronics shop Salmiya Tel: 5617953

## FOR RENT

**SALWA AREA:** New 2-storey villa, 5-bms with attached baths. Marble floors, superb finishing. Garden & garage, quiet location. Rent KD. 1000/- negotiable.  
**JABRIYA AREA:** New split levels villa. 5-bms with attached baths. Garden, pool & garage. Rent KD. 1000/- P.M.  
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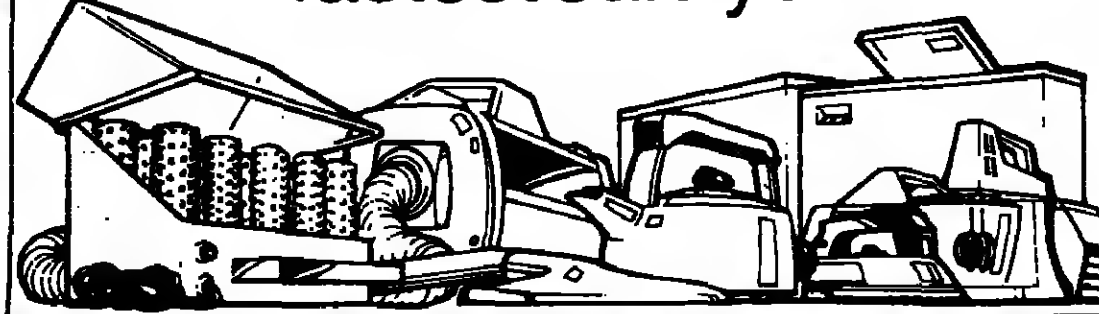
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# MARKET PLACE

**SOFA** set, dining suite, dishwasher, washing machine, tumble dryer, rugs, beds, cot, toys, many household items. All are in good condition. Owner leaving Kuwait. Tela, 5388024. (AT1-41955-3)

**SALMIYA**, opp. Bide Sea Club. Sea road, cream building. Flat 8, 4th floor. Many items for sale. Thursday 28th April, 9 am - 4 pm. Owner leaving Kuwait. (AT2-41987-2)

**KITCHEN** cupboards, electric cooker, coffee-table, wardrobes, desk, childrens toys, bikes, Scaletrix car set, electric tram set, Honda 2.501 motorbike with helmet, wall unit. Tela, 5314737. (AT2-41977-3)

**AMMAN** Street above Marroosh Restaurant. Well-furnished flat; 2 bedrooms, hall and saloon with phone, TV 28", stereo and organ for sale. Price KD2500. Tela, 5748436. (AT2-41981-3)

**QUALITY** audio video equipment. Akai - tuner, turntable, tape deck, Sansui - 120W speakers, AUJ91 amplifier, National NV100 recorder, WVP100 camera. Tela, Camil, 4810810, 4819747, 8.30 am - 2 pm; 2648885, res. after 2 pm. (AT1-41974-3)

**FREEZER**, KD25, automatic washing machine KD25, aerial, rotator, amp, KD20, Chrysler New Yorker 1983 model, automatic cruise control, KD975. Tela, Mr Rick, 5726936 res, 4742257 off. (AT3-42004-3)

**DOUBLE** bed with side table, cupboard, show-case, AC, dining table with chairs, (new) kitchen cabinet, carpet and curtains, sofa, TV-table (new), fridge etc. Tela, Osman, 4849722, 7 am - 1 pm. (AT1-41980-3)

**MINOLTA** SLR camera KD-57 with bag - zoom/micro lens (35mm x 135mm) wide angle lens (28mm) tele converter (x3) flash - filters, KD260 or best offer. Tela, Javaid, 2546022, 2546213, 2546413, 8 am - 2 pm. (AT1-41930-3)

## MISCELLANEOUS

**LOADING** container to Delhi in first week of May. Space of about 5/6 cbm available. Anyone interested please Tela. Paul, 2417758/62. (AT3-41995-3)

**FOR RENT**

Misra Villa, 4 bedrooms with carpet and curtains, KD 850.  
Sura: Villa with swimming pool, KD 850, 4 bedrooms, KD 850.  
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## SITUATIONS

### Wanted

**MAID**, Bangladeshi, honest, reliable, hardworking, available for afternoon work. Tela, former employer, 4736618, after 5 pm. (AT2-41963-2)

### Vacant

**LADY** housekeeper required immediately, preferably European for a single man living near the city. To live in or part-time. Residence visa will be provided. (Men should not enquire). Tela, 4813441, 4846493. (AT1-41963-3)

**COOK** (lady) required for a small family. Must be an expert in Kuwaiti cuisine. Good salary. Tela, Salem Saad, 2466141, 2451391, 5333672. (AT3-42000-3)

## SERVICES

### Tuition

**MATHEMATICS**, Physics and Chemistry, for all classes given by a well-experienced teacher (M.Sc) in Salmiya near Al Bahar Video. Tela, 5623618. (AT2-41988-3)

**PRIVATE** nursery, admission available for 2-1/2 years and below in Salmiya. Tela, 5623635. (AT2-5623635-3)

**PRIVATE** nursery classes, given by a well trained Montessori directress. Commencing 1st May in Al Muthanna Complex. Tela, 2428279 res. (AT2-TM-3)

**HINDI**, Urdu, Islamic studies, science and mathematics from nursery to 10th std preferably for girls, given by an experienced lady teacher, in Hassawi near Bangladesh School. Tela, Sunil, 9025770, 7.30 am to 2 pm. (AT3-41992-3)

## PETS

**GERMAN** shepherd puppies (6 weeks old), for sale. Tela, 3985981, 3 - 8 pm. (AT1-41969-3)

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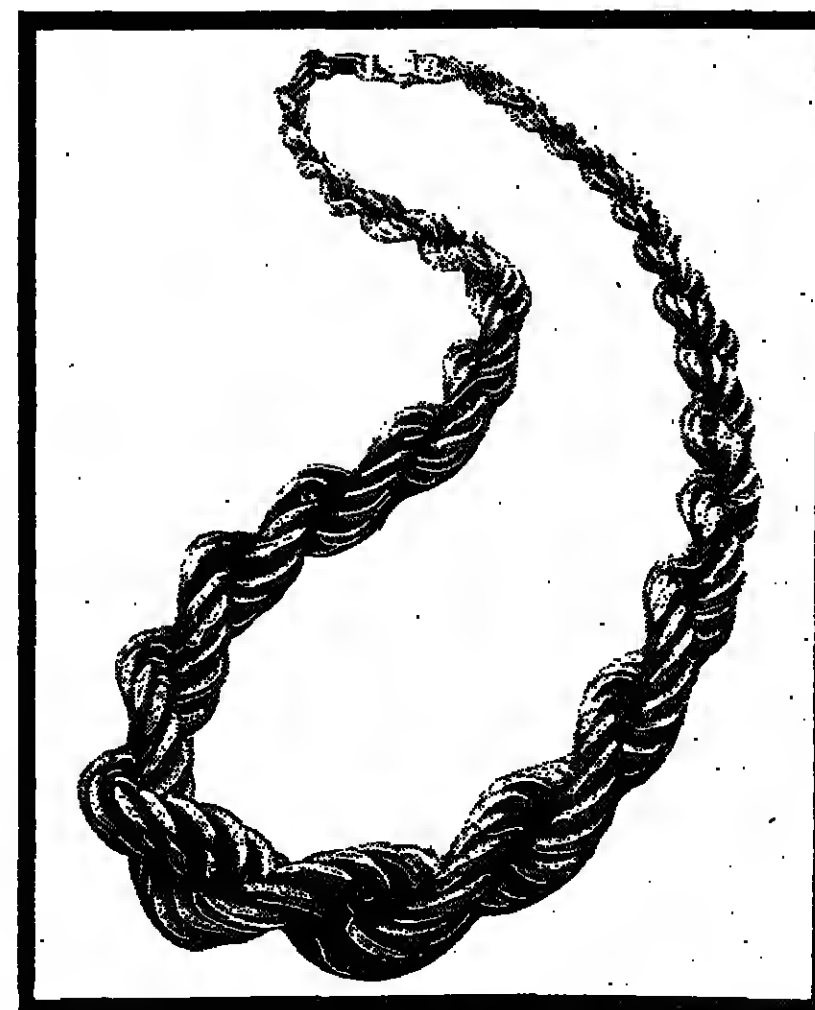
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## Orioles extend record

KANSAS CITY, Missouri, April 24, (AP): The Baltimore Orioles lost their 17th straight game yesterday, showing renewed signs of life but falling in the ninth inning to the Kansas City Royals 4-3 on Kurt Stillwell's RBI single.

The Orioles, who three times held one-run leads, extended the Major League record for season-opening defeats and their team mark for consecutive losses.

**Athletics 3, White Sox 2**  
Right fielder Ivan Calderin's two-base error on Mike Gallego's fly ball in the 10th inning enabled Oakland to beat Chicago 3-2.

Tony Phillips walked to open the 10th and was sacrificed to second. After an intentional walk, Gallego hit the fly ball which eluded Calderin.

**Blue Jays 3, Yankees 2**  
John Cerutti and four relievers combined on a seven-hitter and Toronto had three two-out, run-scoring hits in the second inning as the Blue Jays beat New York 3-2.

Cerutti, 1-0, making his first start after four relief appearances, walked one and struck out three in 6 1/3 innings and had a three-hit shutout until Dave Winfield lined his sixth home run over the centre-field fence with one out in the seventh.

**Indians 10, Twins 2**  
Joe Carter had two three-run homers and a double as Cleveland beat Minnesota 10-2, the Twins' sixth consecutive loss.

Carter, who hit a Grand Slam in Friday night's game, homered in the first and sixth innings.

John Farrell improved his record to 3-0 as he allowed eight hits and gave the Indians the best record in the Major Leagues at 14-3, their best start since 1966.

**Tigers 7, Rangers 6**  
Darrell Evans' three-run homer keyed a five-run seventh inning and Detroit held on for a 7-6 victory over Texas.

The Tigers trailed 3-2 in the seventh when Chet Lemon walked, went to third on a single and scored on a wild pitch by Bobby Witt, 0-3. Witt then walked Gary Pettis and threw another wild pitch that moved the runners to second and third. Jose Cecena came on for Witt and balked home Brooks, Lou Whitaker walked on the balk, then Evans followed with the three-run homer, his first of the season.

### Standings

National League East Division			
	W	L	Pct.
Pittsburgh	12	4	.750
New York	11	5	.688
Montreal	7	9	.438
Philadelphia	6	9	.400
St. Louis	4	12	.250

West Division			
	W	L	Pct.
Los Angeles	10	6	.625
Houston	10	7	.588
Cincinnati	9	8	.529
San Francisco	6	9	.400
Sao Diego	6	9	.400
Atlanta	2	13	.133

**Saturday's games:**  
Cincinnati at Atlanta, p.m., rain.  
Pittsburgh 5, Chicago 4.  
Los Angeles 10, San Francisco 3.  
Montreal 3, Philadelphia 3, tie, 7 innings, rain.  
New York 12, St. Louis 9.  
San Diego 4, Houston 0.

**American League East Division**

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cleveland	14	3	.824	—
New York	12	5	.706	2
Boston	10	5	.667	3
Detroit	9	6	.600	4
Toronto	9	7	.563	4.5
Milwaukee	7	7	.500	5.5
Baltimore	0	17	.000	14

West Division			
	W	L	Pct.
Oakland	11	7	.611
Chicago	9	8	.529
Kansas City	8	10	.444
Seattle	8	10	.444
California	7	10	.412
Texas	6	10	.375
Minnesota	4	11	.267

**Saturday's games:**  
Boston at Milwaukee, p.m., rain.  
Kansas City 4, Baltimore 3.  
Oakland 3, Chicago 2, 10 innings.  
Toronto 3, New York 2.  
Cleveland 10, Minnesota 2.  
Detroit 7, Texas 6.  
Seattle 11, California 4.

## WATFORD RELEGATED TO SECOND DIVISION

# Liverpool and Celtic complete title triumphs

LONDON, April 24, (Reuters): Liverpool clinched their 17th English League soccer championship without the flourish all neutrals had hoped to enjoy yesterday when they edged to a narrow 1-0 victory over struggling Tottenham at Anfield.

England striker Peter Beardsley scored the only goal of the game and his 16th of the season to make mathematically certain of the title — Liverpool's seventh in 10 years — with a brilliant left-foot shot after 33 minutes.

Glasgow Celtic, boosted like Liverpool by a capacity home crowd, made certain of the Scottish title by crushing Dundee 3-0. A third minute goal by Chris Morris sent them on their way and two goals in a minute late in the second half by Andy Walker secured their 35th championship.

**Expected**  
Liverpool, with a team acclaimed by many as their finest, had been expected to saunter to a famous and resounding victory particularly as Tottenham had won at Anfield only twice in 68 years.

But, without injured England winger John Barnes, they failed to reproduce the dazzling form which had enabled them to build a 15-point lead over their rivals and became victims of their own nerves on the most decisive day of the British soccer season.

Much of the play was trapped in midfield and the most promising moves, deftly encouraged by the euphoric crowd, broke down outside the penalty area.

Celtic, who began the season in the shadows of their big-spending

city rivals Rangers, had their celebrations delayed by six minutes because many of the 60,800 fans at their parkhead stadium spilled on to the pitch during half-time.

The second half was delayed but the interruption did nothing to prevent the Celtic players uncorking the champagne with a winning performance to highlight the club's centenary year.

It was an entirely different story at Watford, however, as their six-year spell in the English First Division ended.

Chairman Elton John's club were relegated without even figuring in a match as rivals Charlton, boosted by two early goals from Garth Crooks, beat Newcastle 2-0.

Oxford drew 1-1 with Everton and look certain to join Watford in the Second Division next season.

Dean Saunders put Oxford ahead with a 34th minute penalty — the first goal Oxford had scored in seven matches since former Liverpool defender Mark Lawrenson took over as manager — but Wayne Clarke levelled a minute before the interval.

Clarke's goal kept Everton third behind champions Liverpool and second-placed Manchester United. United were without a game along with fifth-placed Nottingham Forest and Arsenal and Luton who were to meet in the English League cup final today.

England goalkeeper Peter Shilton, 38, celebrated equalising former England winger Terry Paine's record of 824 League appearances by keeping a clean



Beardsley: got the winning goal sheet for Derby in their 2-0 win over his, and Paine's, former club Southampton.

Goals by veteran captain John Gregory and striker Frank Stapleton, the first from the Irish international during his nine matches on loan from Ajax Amsterdam, boosted Derby's hopes of staying out of the relegation zone.

Portsmouth, in 19th place and

four, points adrift of the relative safety of a place in the play-offs, missed an opportunity of lifting their misery when they were held 2-2 at home by Norwich.

After trailing to a goal by Andy Linighan, Portsmouth hit back to lead through Mick Quinn and Paul Mariner, but conceded a last-minute penalty converted by Wayne Biggins.

The two other threatened Lon-

don clubs, Chelsea and West Ham, also drew — Chelsea fighting back from 2-0 down to take a point at Wimbledon, Liverpool's opponents in the Football Association (FA) Cup final next month, and West Ham coming from behind to draw 1-1 at home to Coventry.

Lawrie Sanchez and Dennis Wise shot Wimbledon ahead — before Gordon Durie scored twice for Chelsea, once with a penalty, to equalise.

Tony Cottee was West Ham's hero as he levelled with his first goal in 10 games just 12 minutes from time against Coventry. Cyrille Regis had put Coventry in front.

In the remaining First Division game, Queen's Park Rangers drew 1-1 with Sheffield Wednesday, Dean Coney equalising after Colin West had put the visitors ahead.

Millwall stayed on top of the English Second Division without playing as their nearest rivals Bradford and Middlesbrough failed to win. Former European Cup winners Aston Villa moved up to second with a 1-0 home victory over Shrewsbury.

In Scotland, the only possible academic challenge to Celtic failed to materialise as Aberdeen and Hearts drew 0-0. Rangers won 3-0 at St Mirren with goals from Mark Walters, John Brown and Ally McCoist.

English Division One			
	W	L	Pct.
Charlton	2	2	.500
Derby	2	2	.500
Liverpool	1	1	.500
Oxford	1	1	.500
Portsmouth	2	2	.500
QPR	1	1	.500
West Ham	1	1	.500

Wimbledon 3 Chelsea 2  
Postponed: Arsenal v Watford, Luton v Nottingham Forest

English Division Two			
	W	L	Pct.
Aston Villa	1	1	.500
Barnsley	2	2	.500
Hull	4	0	1.000
Leeds	1	1	.500
Leicester	1	1	.500
Manchester City	2	2	.500
Plymouth	1	1	.500
Sheffield U	0	0	.000
Stoke	1	1	.500
Bournemouth	1	1	.500

English Division Three			
	W	L	Pct.
Blackpool	3	0	1.000
Bristol R	1	1	.500
Chester	1	1	.500
Doncaster	1	1	.500
Fulham	0	0	.000
Gillingham	4	0	1.000
Manfield	0	0	.000
Nottingham	0	0	.000
Sunderland	0	0	.000
Wigan	2	2	.500
York	2	2	.500

English Division Four			
	W	L	Pct.
Bolton	6	0	1.000
Cardiff	2	2	.500
Carlisle	2	2	.500
Darlington	2	2	.500
Halifax	3	1	.750
Hemel Hempstead	1	1	.500
Peterborough	2	2	.500
Rochdale	1	1	.500
Scunthorpe	1	1	.500
Swansea	1	1	.500
Stockport	1	1	.500
Tranmere	1	1	.500

Scottish Premier Division			
	W	L	Pct.
Aberdeen	0	0	.000
Celtic	3	0	1.000
Dundee U	2	0	1.000
Falkirk	2	0	1.000
Hibernian	1	0	1.000
St Mirren	0	0	.000

Scottish Division One			
	W	L	Pct.
Dumbarton	0	0	.000
Hamilton	0	0	.000
Kilmarnock	0	0	.000
Mendowbank	0	0	.000
Partick	0	0	.000
Raith	2	0	1.000

Scottish Division Two			
	W	L	Pct.
Albion	1	0	1.000
Ayr	0	0	.000
Cowdenbeath	3	0	1.000
Montrose	1	0	1.000
St Johnstone	2	0	1.000
Stirling	2	0	1.000
Stranraer	2	0	1.000

## Garrison puts up a fight before losing

# Navratilova to face Evert in final

HOUSTON, Texas, April 24, (Reuters): Martina Navratilova won her 29th consecutive singles match yesterday to set up her 77th career match against Chris Evert in the finals of the \$250,000 Houston Women's Tennis Championship.

In all-American semifinal matchups, Navratilova defeated unseeded Ely Hakami 6-1 6-3 and Evert, seeded second, beat fourth seeded Zina Garrison 7-5 6-2.

"I feel solid," Navratilova said. "I feel I can rally from the baseline forever, and I just don't feel any weaknesses. On top of that, I can create openings and come in and force the action."

**Surface**  
"It's a little easier for me to hold serve than it is for Chris on this surface. That should give me a big edge."

Navratilova is looking to win her sixth consecutive tournament in her struggle to regain her number-one world ranking. Evert, the two-time defending champion, defeated Navratilova in the 1987 final here.

After dropping the opening game of the match, Navratilova won six consecutive games to win the first set 6-1 in 34 minutes.

She surged ahead 2-0 in the second set, before losing her serve in a 14-point game in which she delivered three of her eight aces.

Four consecutive service



Evert overcame Garrison

breaks followed before Navratilova went on to capture the final set 6-3.

Hakami, a right-hander using both a two-handed forehand and backhand, played a powerful baseline game. But she missed many of her attempts at down-the-line winners.

Navratilova's serve was the key, getting 61 per cent of her first serves in and winning 30 of those 49 points.

Evert broke first in game five and built a 4-2 lead before Garrison held and broke back to tie the set 4-4. Garrison again lost her serve in the 11th game, during

which Evert whipped three shots past her at the net.

Unforced errors plagued Garrison in the final game, as Evert won her second love game.

"Zina played very well. It could have gone either way. Mentally, I had the edge after I won the first set. She would have had a long way to go to come back."

In the second set, Garrison fought off three break points before missing a backhand volley to give Evert the break and a 2-1 lead.

Evert broke again in game seven to close out the one-hour, 40-minute match.

"It was a good competitive match," Evert said. "I needed a tough set like that to prepare for the finals. I felt like as the match progressed I got better. She started making a few more errors. She's playing a lot better than she has been."

"It was tough enough, but I don't feel like it's going to tire me out for tomorrow."

"I didn't take advantage of my chances," Garrison said. "When I really needed a big shot, I didn't get it. The second set, I stopped moving. I got sluggish."

In the first doubles semifinal, the top-seeded team of Navratilova and Lori McNeil of Houston defeated Gretchen Magers of San Antonio and Wendy White of Fort Worth, 7-6 (7-4), 6-2.

## Goldie wins

SEOUL, April 24, (Reuters): Fifth-seeded American Dan Goldie survived a second set fightback by Briton Andrew Castle to lift the South Korean Open tennis title today.

Goldie, winner of the Hall of Fame Championship in Newport, Rhode Island, last year, served and returned well against Castle to triumph 6-3 6-7 (5-7) 6-0.

Castle is the first Englishman to reach a Grand Prix final for six years.

## Gamez stops Kenji to retain WBA crown

TOKYO, April 24, (Reuters): Hard-hitting Leo Gamez of Venezuela demolished Japanese challenger Kenji Yokozawa with stinging right punches to make his first defence of the World Boxing Association (WBA) minimum weight title here today.

Gamez, 24, stopped Yokozawa in one minute 25 seconds in the third round of a scheduled 12 rounder, after pounding the Japanese with hard right punches, including uppercut blows.

**Suffered**  
American referee Bernie Soto from Miami said he stopped the fight because Yokozawa suffered bad cuts over his left eye and in his mouth.

The Venezuelan, who won the newly created title by outpointing Kim Bon-Jun in Seoul last January, dominated the fight from the opening round with

right straights and upper cut punches.

Gamez, a good counter-puncher, floored the Japanese southpaw with a solid right straight to the face near the end of the second round.

Soto stepped in to end the fight in the third just after Gamez caught the Japanese with another hard right uppercut blow to the face.

Gamez said Kenji's punches did not hurt him.

The undefeated Venezuelan stretched his winning streak to 18 wins, including 12 knockouts.

It was Yokozawa's eighth defeat, against 10 wins and two draws.

WBA supervisor Jorge Humberto Klee of Colombia said Gamez would make his next defence against Kim within 60 days.



Brown raises his arms in victory after beating Trice. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Brown clinches IBF title

BERCK, France, April 24, (AP): Simon Brown of Jamaica stopped American Tyrone Trice in the 14th round last night to win the vacant International Boxing Federation (IBF) welterweight title.

The victory was Brown's 25th in 26 fights, with 19 kos. Trice's record is now 29-2.

**Refused**  
The division had been without a champion since last year when Lloyd Honeyghan of Britain met Mexican Jorge Vaca in a match the IBF refused to recognise.

Although Honeyghan lost, then reclaimed the World Boxing Council title, the IBF title remained vacant. Marlon Starling is the World Boxing Association champion.

Brown, 24, was the No. 1

challenger by the IBF but ranked just 19th by the WBC.

Both fighters came out firing, with Trice knocking Brown to the canvas in the second round with a right hook.

Trice, 24, scored early with hard rights to the face but the tide gradually turned in favour of Brown.

In the 12th, Trice went to the canvas three times but was saved by the bell.

Brown knocked down Trice again in the 13th before the referee stopped the bout in the following round.

"He surprised me," Brown said afterward. "He hit me hard until the 14th round. He's got speed, and he's got power. Unbelievable, I never fought anybody like this."

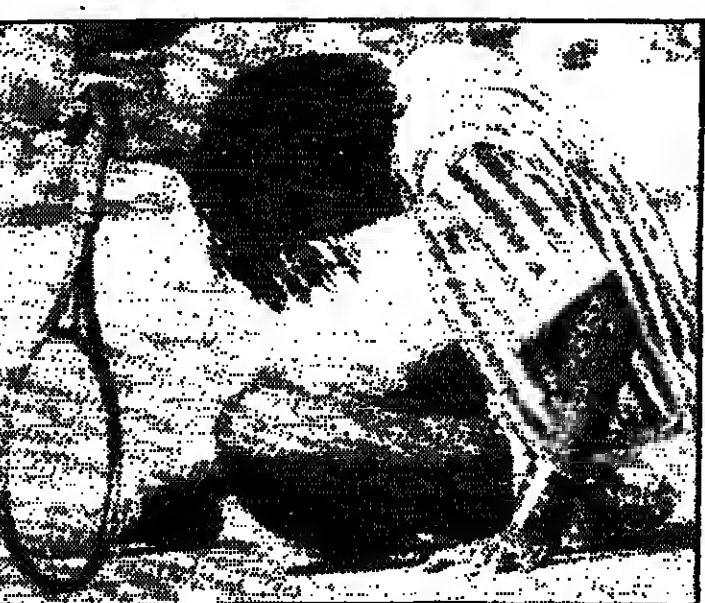
## Lendl and Jaite score contrasting victories

MONTE CARLO, April 24, (Reuters): World number one Ivan Lendl and Argentine seventh seed Martin Jaite booked places in the final of the Monte Carlo Open tennis tournament with contrasting semifinal wins over Frenchmen Yannick Noah and Thierry Tulasne yesterday.

Lendl, returning to the circuit after two months sidelined by a stress fracture in this right foot, beat fourth-seeded Noah 4-6 7-6 6-3 in a gripping duel of two hours 40 minutes.

**Creditable**  
Jaite needed just half that time to oust unseeded Tulasne 6-4 6-2, ending a creditable run by the Frenchman who belied his lowly 89th place in the world rankings when he conquered fifth-seeded Andres Gomez of Ecuador in the quarterfinals.

Tulasne led 3-0 in the first set but then dropped five successive games, a pattern Jaite prepared in the second set when he again reeled off five straight games to complete his victory.



Noah sits on the court after losing to Lendl. (Reuters wirephoto)

The premature demise of second and third seeds Mats Wilander and Boris Becker had left the path clear in the bottom half of the draw, but Lendl and Noah reached their allotted

semifinal spots and proved a match of fitting quality.

Noah had made spectacular recoveries in all three preceding rounds — against doubles partner Guy Forget, Spanish

qualifier Jordi Arrese and, most dramatically, compatriot Henri Leconte in Friday's quarterfinals when he saved three straight match points in a tie-break.

But he could not repeat the feat against Lendl, although the Czechoslovak powerhouse needed six set-points to clinch the second set which kept him in the match.

Noah took charge in the first set, serving better than his rival, who double-faulted three times in his second and third service games, conceding the lone break to trail 2-3.

Lendl, stronger as the game wore on, squandered three successive set-points at 6-5 in the second set with backhands into the net and hallooed a fourth too long as the match plunged towards a tie-break.

But he held his nerve to win that critical tie-break 7-4 and broke Noah's service three times in the deciding third set to gain his place in the final of a tournament he last graced as its champion in 1985.

"He put a lot of pressure on my service, but then I made some passing shots and all of a sudden I was in the match," Lendl said.

"I didn't feel good in the first set. I felt stiff. (But) I was very happy with the way I competed and the way I feel."



## SPORTS

RICHARDS &amp; CO. SCORE 226 FOR EIGHT

## Pakistan restrict W.Indies batsmen



Wasim: took three wickets for 43

BRIDGETOWN, April 24, (Reuters): The loss of four wickets for four runs in a 25-minute period after tea on the second day virtually destroyed the West Indies hopes of a first innings lead in the third Test against Pakistan yesterday.

When stumps were drawn they were floundering at 226-8 in reply to Pakistan's total of 309.

With 75 minutes remaining the West Indies, with Viv Richards having blasted a half-century and looking good for a hundred, had scored 197-3.

**Dramatic**  
But when Desmond Haynes' long and stubborn 286-minute innings of 48 ended, a dramatic collapse ensued. Haynes was the first of three wickets to fall in 9 balls. In sight of his first Test fifty for ten innings, the 32-year-old veteran of 72 Tests tried to cut a long hop from Mudassar but got an edge to stand-in keeper Aamer Malik.

Gus Logie departed the very next ball when he played back to a ball outside off stump which swung away and took the edge to Mudassar his 58th Test wicket. Seven balls later Jeffrey Dujin

called Richards for a non-existent single to Salim Malik at backward point, but was sent back and was run out by yards.

Richards, who passed 7,000 Test runs on his way to 67, appeared unsettled by his team's relapse and top-edged a Wasim bouncer to long leg where Mudassar took a fine running catch.

Richards' 67 included ten fours and was scored off only 80 balls. At one stage Imran, who had suffered some heavy punishment from the West Indies captain, had 5 men on the boundary for him.

Malcolm Marshall, bowled by Wasim off a non-ball two deliveries after Richards' demise, stayed till the close for a plucky 15 but lost Curtley Ambrose lbw to Imran just before stumps.

The West Indies had earlier made an awful start, losing two wickets for 21, although the first wicket stand of 18 was ironically their best of the series. Gordon Greenidge was lbw to Imran for 10 and was followed in the next over by Richie Richardson who was caught behind off Akram. Haynes was then joined by 21-

year old Carl Hooper who clearly relished his promotion to number 4. Playing scarcely a false stroke he went to his first fifty of the series off only 70 balls before playing on to Wasim shortly afterwards for 54.

His partnership with Haynes had realised 79 for the third wicket and was followed by a fourth wicket stand of 97 between Richards and Haynes.

Wasim Akram was the best Pakistani bowler returning 3-43 off 20 overs.

**Scoreboard**  
PAKISTAN first innings 309 (Rasool Raja 54, Shoaib Mohammad 54 M. Marshall 100 for 79)

WEST INDIES first innings  
G. Greenidge lbw b Imran 10  
D. Haynes c Aamer b Mudassar 48  
R. Richardson c Aamer b Akram 3  
C. Hooper b Akram 54  
V. Richards c Mudassar b Akram 67  
G. Logie c Mianad b Mudassar 6  
J. Dujin run out 0  
M. Marshall not out 15  
C. Ambrose lbw b Imran 7  
Extras (b-5 lb-10 ab-7) 22  
Total (eight wickets) 226  
Fall of wickets: 1-18 2-21 3-100 4-198 5-198 6-199 7-201 8-225

To bat: C. Walsh, P. Patterson, M. Marshall not out 18-375-2, Akram 20-1-43-3, Qadir 14-1-34-0, Jaffer 7-1-35-0, Mudassar 10-4-24-2.

## Africa could boycott 1988 Games if Budd runs

ABIDJAN, April 24, (Reuters): Africa could boycott the Seoul Olympics if South African-born long-distance runner Zola Budd is allowed to take part, Lamine Ba, secretary-general of the Supreme Council for Sports in Africa (SCSA), said yesterday.

"On the question of apartheid we are intransigent," Ba told Reuters in an interview on the eve of a London meeting which will discuss the naturalised Briton's future as an athlete as well as Britain's participation in the Seoul Games.

"We are ready to make the necessary sacrifices, even if we have to pay the price for such a choice. This is why Africa has boycotted sporting events in the past, even when it means creating frustrations among athletes and slowing down progress because without top level confrontations we cannot evolve."

**Dignity**  
"But if a boycott must be the price we pay for the honour and dignity of black men, then we are ready to pay the price," said Ba, the head of the continent's ruling sports body.

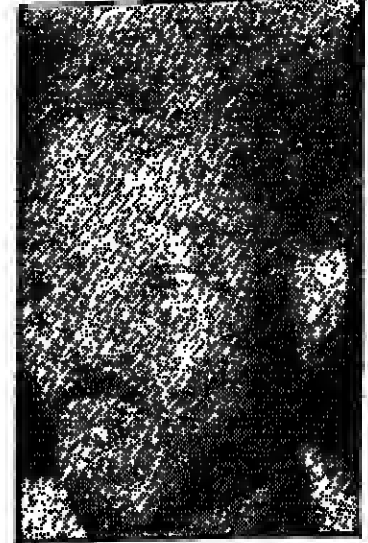
Ba, a 55-year-old Senegalese who has headed SCSA for the past eight years, said that Budd had continued to take part in track competitions in South Africa "despite holding a British passport of convenience."

He said that under both International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) rules and the Olympic charter she no longer qualifies for the Games.

The British Amateur Athletic Board (BAAB) council was to meet in an emergency session this evening after being told by the IAAF in ban Budd or face suspension itself.

A ban on the board would lead to all British athletes missing the Seoul Olympics.

Asked what he thought the outcome of the meeting would be, Ba said: "They have to take their responsibilities, it is up to



Lamine Ba

them."

Meanwhile Budd vowed to carry on the fight to save her career.

"I don't want to give up on my running. Running is the key to the rest of my life," said Budd. "I want to live a happy life after running and if I don't go through this now, I think, for the rest of my life, I will regret my decision," she said in a television interview yesterday.

The South African-born Budd, a naturalised Briton, said she had tried to put thoughts of the Olympics out of her mind.

Asked if she had given up hopes of running in Seoul, she said: "No, I don't think I've accepted that. It is just that I don't want to be disappointed again, so I don't think about the Olympics any more and just train."

**Adjourned**  
A London court, meanwhile, yesterday adjourned until May 4 a case brought by a right-wing group against the IAAF for alleged blackmail in the Budd affair.

The adjournment followed a closed hearing at Marlborough Street court in which the right-wing group, the Freedom Association, sought a private summons for blackmail against IAAF president Primo Nebiolo and general secretary John Holt.

The association's chairman, Norris McWhirter, said the allegations followed statements made at an IAAF news conference on April 16 calling for Budd's suspension.

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Martin said: "The virus came on a few days ago. I was not fit to play, but I gave it a go. It's a pity, but I fancied another crack at Jansher having beaten him last week."

Reigning world champion Jansher Khan of Pakistan, sensationally beaten by Martin in the British Open, outclassed Welshman Adrian Davies 9-19-0-9-3.

England prospect Chris Walker, ranked 60 in the world, beat 13th seed Jan-Ulf Soederberg of Sweden 9-7-7-9-29-0.

## Hunt surprises Martin

PARIS, April 24, (Reuters): Australian Rodney Martin made a shock exit in the first round of the Paris Open Squash Championship yesterday only five days after appearing in the British Open final.

Fourth seed Martin, troubled by a mystery virus, succumbed to veteran compatriot and ex-world number one Geoff Hunt 9-1-9-5-9-1.

**Wished**  
Hunt, Martin's coach and mentor, said: "I feel sorry for Rodney, he just could not move. I rather wished he had progres-

sed instead of me."

Martin said: "The virus came on a few days ago. I was not fit to play, but I gave it a go. It's a pity, but I fancied another crack at Jansher having beaten him last week."

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## Magee takes pole spot

JARAMA, Spain, April 24, (Reuters): Yamaha-rider Kevin Magee of Australia was the surprise leader after yesterday's final 500cc practice for the Spanish Motorcycle Grand Prix this evening.

World champion Wayne Gardner, also of Australia, improved on his earlier runs, pulling up to fourth place on his Honda.

Magee took pole position with a fastest time of one minute 27.148 seconds round the Jarama

circuit on a blustery, chilly day. Gardner, chasing his first win of the season after finishing second in Japan and the United States, clocked 1:27.694 to move up from eighth place after Friday's practice.

Ahead of Gardner in second and third places were former world champion Eddie Lawson of the United States in 1:27.352 and Christian Sarron of France in 1:27.692, both on Yamahas.

## Pinero takes one-stroke Open lead

MADRID, April 24, (Reuters): Spaniard Manuel Pinero, who partnered Severiano Ballesteros to victory in the 1976 World Cup but lost his taste for golf and dropped out of the limelight, bounced back with a 67 to take the lead in yesterday's third round of the \$380,000 Madrid Open championship at Puerta de Hierro.

His 111-under-par score of 205 edged him a stroke clear of tournament favourite Ballesteros and a third Spaniard, Miguel Martin.

Ballesteros birdied three of the last six holes for a 69 and Martin eagled the last for a 68.

Former caddy Pinero, three times winner, went out in 32 with four birdies in the first eight holes.

**Birdies**  
Ballesteros picked up four birdies in five holes going out then dropped three strokes over the next four, but he holed from 25 feet and 20 feet for two of his three late birdies.

Overnight leader Jase Gervais, Madrid-based first year professional, shot 73 and amateur Yagn Beannette, a fellow member of the host club, 72 to end on 207 in joint fourth place.

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## Washington clinch playoff berth

LANDOVER, Maryland, April 24, (AP): Washington clinched an NBA playoff berth in its final game last night as John Williams scored 15 of his 19 points in the first half and the Bullets coasted to a 106-96 victory over the Atlanta Hawks.

Atlanta could have clinched third place in the Eastern Conference with a victory, but the Hawks' defeat means Chicago could tie them with a victory over the Boston Celtics this evening.

The Bulls won the season series from Atlanta, and will get the third playoff spot if they beat the Celtics.

**Cavaliers 104, 76ers 99**  
Mark Price scored 20 of his 25 points in the second half, rallying the Cleveland Cavaliers from a nine-point halftime deficit to a 104-99 victory over Philadelphia, ending the 76ers' string of 12 straight playoff appearances.

The loss, coupled with Washington's victory over

Atlanta, dropped Philadelphia out of the race for the Eastern Conference playoffs. The 76ers close the regular season this evening at Detroit.

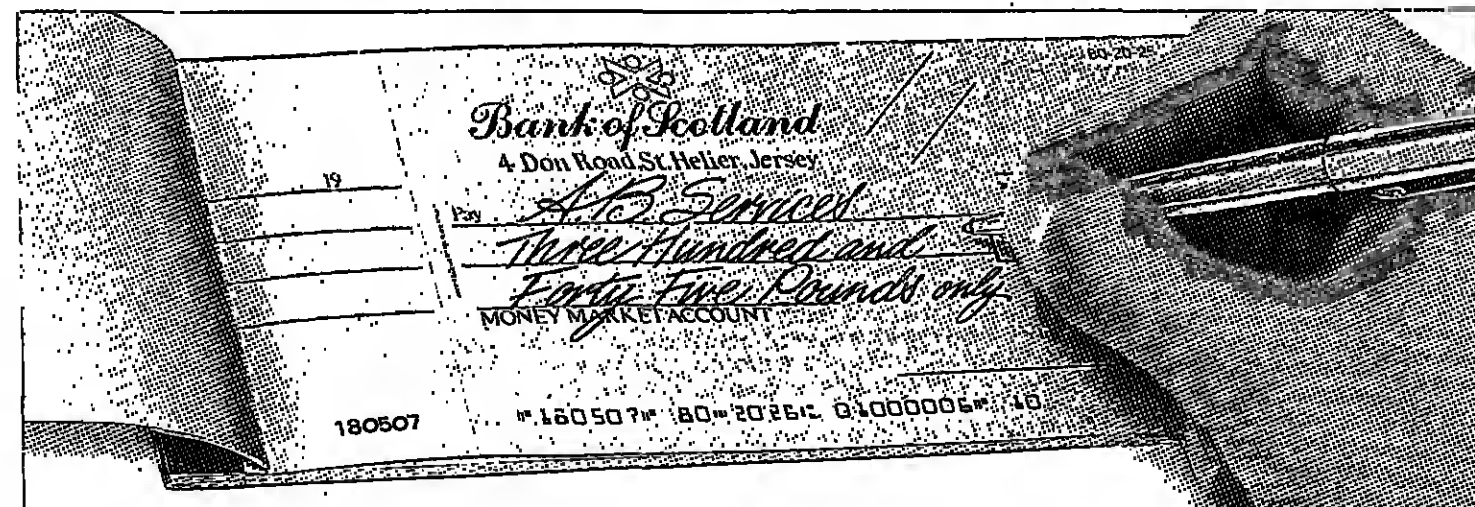
**Nets 118, Bucks 105**  
Roy Hinson scored 25 points and Dudley Bradley came off the bench for 21 of his 22 points in the second half as the New Jersey Nets snapped a 15-game losing streak with a 118-105 victory over the Milwaukee Bucks.

Despite the victory in their

season finale, the Nets finished with their worst record, 19-63, since joining the NBA in the 1976-77 season. Their previous worst record came that year when they finished 22-60.

**Results**  
Eastern Conference  
Cleveland 104 Philadelphia 99  
New Jersey 118 Milwaukee 105  
Washington 104 Atlanta 96  
New York 88 Indiana 86  
Western Conference  
Denver 134 LA Clippers 109  
Utah 125 Houston 107  
Portland 124 Sacramento 110

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## Gooch slams Kent for career-best 275

LONDON, April 24, (Reuters): England opener Graham Gooch savaged Kent attack for a career-best 275 as Essex reached a massive 616 all out in the county championship cricket match at Chelmsford yesterday.

Mike Gatting, the England captain, also hit a double-century at Lord's where Middlesex wiped out a first-innings deficit of 109 against county champions Nottinghamshire.

The 34-year-old Gnoch, 126 overnight, completely dominated the Kent bowling as he went on to amass 27 fours and six sixes during a stay of nearly eight hours.

His effort boosted Essex to a first innings lead of 216 on the third day of the four-day match.

**Dream**  
Gooch looked all set to join Percy Perrin, who made 343 against Derbyshire in 1904, the only Essex player to hit a treble century. But that dream was ended by left-arm spinner Richard Davis who found a way past Gooch's bat.

Gooch, who made only 131 runs in 10 innings on the Chelmsford ground last season, said: "I am disappointed not to have got the 300 but I have no complaints. I made a bad start last season but I've managed to forget about that."

By the close Kent were 76 for

four in their second innings needing another 140 to avoid an innings defeat.

Middlesex, bowled out for 199 in their first innings, piled up 505 for five declared in their second innings.

Gatting, who made 210 with 35 fours in a shade under six hours, and John Carr and Keith Brown, 106 and 131 not out respectively, made a Nottinghamshire attack that can no longer call on the services of Clive Rice and Richard Hadlee look pretty threatening.

Nottinghamshire, requiring 397 to win in six overs and a full day tomorrow, were 10 for no wicket at the close.

The introduction of four-day

matches brought high-scoring feats in nearly every game with James Whitaker (145) and Laurie Patten (107) giving Leicestershire a boost against Derbyshire at Derby and wicketkeeper Neil Burns turning Somerset from the brink of defeat against Sussex at Hove.

At the start of the day, Somerset held a slender lead of 59 with only four second innings wickets standing. But with Burns reaching a century in 312 minutes with 13 fours and sharing an eighth-wicket stand of 119 with Neil Mallender, Sussex's hopes of winning inside three days disappeared.

Somerset were eventually all out for 333 with Burns unbeaten

on 133 and Sussex needed 210 to force their first championship win at Hove for two seasons. They were 68 for one at the close.

At Derby: Derbyshire 324 in 119.5 overs and 66 for no wicket (J. Wright 42 not out), Leicestershire 482 for eighth declared (J. Whitaker 145, L. Potter 107).

At Chelmsford: Kent 407 for seven declared in 152 overs and 76 for four. Essex 616 in 161.5 overs (G. Gooch 275, D. Pringle 128, K. Fletcher 58, R. Davis five for 132).

At Old Trafford: Worcestershire 409 for seven declared in 144 overs. Lancashire 101 in 47.4 overs (G. Dille three for 14, R. Illingworth five for 46) and 161 for four (N. Fairbrother 56, G. Fowler 50).

At Lord's: Middlesex 199 in 67.5 overs and 505 for five declared (M. Gatting 210, K. Brown 131 not out, J. Carr 106). Nottinghamshire 308 in 129.2 overs and 10 for no wicket.

At Bristol: Glamorgan 372 for nine declared in 128 overs and 217 for five (H. Morris 84, M. Maynard 68). Gloucestershire 341 for seven declared in 113.1 overs (J. Loyds 68).

At Hove: Somerset 142 in 67.3 overs and 333 in 145.5 overs (N. Burns 133 not out, N. Mallender 44, A. Babington four for 66). Sussex 266 in 81.2 overs and 68 for one (A. Green 43 not out).

## SPORTS BRIEFS

## Jones leads

ST PETERSBURG, Fla., April 24, (Reuters): American Rosie Jones held onto a one-shot lead over compatriot Kathy Postolwait after three rounds of the \$225,000 St Petersburg Golf Classic yesterday.

## Beck ahead

NEW ORLEANS, Fla., April 24, (Reuters): Chip Beck overtook American compatriot Lanny Wadkins yesterday with a brilliant seven-under-par 65 to take a three-stroke lead at the \$750,000 New Orleans Open.

## Two killed

BOGOTA, April 24, (Reuters): Two Chilean competitors died when their Toyota slammed into a tree during the Trans-Amazon rally, organisers said yesterday. Sergio Kaul Abuhaba and Jase Francisco Restucci were 30 km short of the finish of the first stage between Cartagena and Cucuta on Friday when they crashed.

## Japan triathlon

HIRARA, Japan, April 24, (AP): Mitsuhiko Yamamoto of Japan won the men's competition and Jan Wanklyn of Australia took the women's title today in the 4th All Japan Triathlon Miyako.

## Ireland beaten

DUBLIN, April 24, (Reuters): Ireland's rugby union players failed to celebrate the 1,000th anniversary of this capital city in fitting style yesterday when they were beaten 21-10 by England in an exhibition match.

## Whitbread Cup

LONDON, April 24, (Reuters): David Elsworth, trainer of Grand National winner Rhyme 'n' Reason, scored another notable success yesterday when 6-1 shot Devon Orchid led virtually throughout to win the £70,000 (£132,300) Whitbread Gold Cup.

## McDonald's meet

PHOENIX, Arizona, April 24, (AP): All-around champion Svetlana Bogutskaya led a near-sweep by the Soviet Union yesterday in the women's gymnastics competition with the United States at the McDonald's Challenge meet.

## Italian swimmers

COMO, Italy, April 24, (AP): Italian swimmers won eight of 13 individual races and one of the three relays yesterday in the first of two days of a swim meet that also included teams from Britain, Spain and Sweden.

## Baseball team

LAUSANNE, Switzerland, April 24, (AP): Cuba, one of six nations boycotting the Seoul Olympics, still might send a baseball team to team games, the head of the sport's international governing body said yesterday. Robert E. Smith, president of the International Baseball Association, said the Cubans have been given until May 17 to decide whether to enter a team in the baseball tournament.

## Upset victory

SYDNEY, Australia, April 24, (AP): Fiji ended the title hopes of New South Wales in the South Pacific Rugby Union championship with a crushing 29-10 upset win at the National stadium in Suva yesterday.